THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

APPENDIX, 1776.

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SCOTS MILITIA.

AN intereſting queſtion having been agitated in parliament, in the courſe of this year, regarding the eſtabliſhment of a militia for Scotland, it is imagined a ſhort ſketch of the contents of this bill, and a connected view of the ſeveral proceedings, from its firſt preſentment till it was *in effect* thrown out, may not be diſagreeable to the public in general.

On the 2d Nov. 1775, Lord Mount-Stuart moved in the houſe of Commons for leave to bring in a bill for the eſtabliſhment of a militia in Scotland. He introduced his motion with obſerving, that the diſtinction between the two kingdoms in this point threw an injurious ſtain upon a brave and deſerving nation.—The motion being agreed to, the bill was preſented on the 7th Dec. read a firſt time, and ordered to be printed.—— An abſtract of its contents follows.

A bill for the better ordering the militia forces in that part of Great Britain called Scotland.

WHereas it has been found, from experience, that the well-ordering and diſciplining the militia in England and Wales, has eſſentially contributed to the ſafety, peace, and proſperity, of the united kingdom;—And whereas it would further contribute to the ſame great and good purpoſes, if a well-ordered and well-diſciplined militia was eſtabliſhed in Scotland;—And whereas the laws for the regulation

regulation of the militia in Scotland are defective and ineffectual,——Be it therefore enacted,

That all acts relating to the militia in Scotland, ſhall, from the paſſing of this act, be, and are hereby

That in Scotland there ſhall be militia-men, excluſive of officers, in the whole, choſen by lot, who ſhall be armed and arrayed in ſuch manner, and according to ſuch rules and regulations as are herein after expreſſed.

That for carrying this act into execution, his Majeſty, &c. may and ſhall iſſue forth commiſſions to commiſſioners of militia in each county, &c. and the reſpective commiſſioners thereby appointed, or of them, ſhall appoint deputy-commiſſioners, who ſhall be reſpectively qualified as herein after is expreſſed; and ſhall cauſe advertiſements to be publiſhed in the news-papers, that all gentlemen willing to ſerve as officers in the militia of ſuch county, &c. ſhall return their names, and places of abode, and additions, to his Majeſty's commiſſioners of militia, ſpecifying the rank in which they are willing to ſerve reſpectively: and his Majeſty's commiſſioners ſhall appoint a proper number of lieutenant-colonels, majors, and other officers, qualified as herein after directed, to train and diſcipline the perſons ſo to be armed and arrayed, according to the rules, &c. herein after provided, and ſhall certify to his Majeſty, &c.

That each perſon ſo to be appointed a deputy-commiſſioner, ſhall be proprietor and be in poſſeſſion of lands in Scotland, holden either of the crown or of a ſubject, and valued in the ceſs-books of the county where they lie at or ſhall be ſuperior of lands yielding annually to the ſuperior not leſs than or ſhall be heir-apparent of ſome perſon who ſhall be, in like manner, proprietor and in poſſeſſion of a like eſtate as aforeſaid, valued in the ceſs-books of the county where they lie at or ſhall be heir-apparent of a ſuperior of lands yielding annually to the ſuperior not leſs than

[The bill then proceeds to recite, in like manner, the qualifications neceſſary for each lieutenant-colonel, major, captain, lieutenant, and enſign.]

That when any battalion of militia ſhall be drawn out and embodied, his Majeſty's commiſſioners, or of them, may, upon account of military merit ſhewn in time of actual invaſion or rebellion, promote any officer therein from a lower to a higher commiſſion, notwithſtanding he ſhall not have the qualification in point of eſtate requiſite for his admittance into ſuch higher rank; provided that no perſon not having the qualification herein before directed for a captain, ſhall be promoted to a higher rank than that of a captain.

That every commiſſioner, deputy-commiſſioner, and commiſſion-officer, in the ſaid militia, ſhall, at ſome general quarter-ſeſſions, or before the ſheriff-depute of the county or his ſubſtitute, within after he ſhall have accepted his commiſſion, take the oaths of allegiance, abjuration, and aſſurance,—and ſhall alſo make, repeat, and ſubſcribe the declaration in the act 1° Geo. I. directed to be made, &c. by all officers civil and military; and if any perſon ſhall execute any of the powers hereby conferred, not being qualified as aforeſaid, every ſuch perſon ſhall forfeit and pay the ſum of

That nothing in this act contained ſhall reſtrain his Majeſty's commiſſioners from appointing any peer, or heir-apparent of ſuch peer, to be a deputy-commiſſioner or commiſſion-officer in the militia, within the county, &c. or oblige any peer, or heir-apparent of ſuch peer (ſo appointed), to leave with the clerk of the peace for the county, &c. any qualification in writing as aforeſaid.

That the acceptance of an appointment to be a deputy-commiſſioner, or of a commiſſion in the militia, ſhall not vacate the ſeat of any member returned to ſerve in parliament.

That his Majeſty's commiſſioners, at the end of every at their annual meeting, ſhall diſcharge ſome one field-officer of each battalion, and ſuch number of officers of each inferior rank as ſhall be equal to the number of perſons who ſhall have given notice in writing to his Majeſty's commiſſioners at leaſt before ſuch meeting, that they are willing to ſerve as field-officers, captains, lieutenants, or enſigns, as the caſe may require; provided that the number of vacancies to be made ſhall not exceed of ſuch officers who ſhall have ſerved for the ſpace of in each rank reſpectively. Provided that nothing herein contained ſhall prevent any officer who has ſerved from offering to ſerve in a higher rank, if he be qualified as this act requires.

That it ſhall be lawful for the commiſſioner of any county, &c. to act as lieutenant-

lieutenant-colonel of any battalion of militia, for such county, &c. during such time as there shall not be any field-officer appointed for the command of the same; but no commissioner shall, at any one time, act as a lieutenant-colonel to more than one battalion.

That his Majesty, &c. may and shall appoint one proper person, who shall have served for the space of in some of his Majesty's other forces, or in any corps of militia that has been drawn out and embodied for the space of to be an adjutant to each battalion or independent company of militia; and such adjutant, if appointed out of his Majesty's other forces, shall, during his service in the said militia, preserve his rank in the army in the same manner as if he had continued in that service.

That any person who shall quit his half-pay to serve as a commissioned officer in the militia, shall, upon his quitting the same, or upon unembodying thereof, be restored to his half-pay, to recommence from the last quarter-day or day of payment next preceding.

That the colonel, or the commanding officer of each battalion of militia, shall appoint a serjeant-major out of the serjeants, and a drum-major out of the drummers, of such battalion.

That his Majesty, &c. may and shall appoint, according to the proportion of one serjeant to private men, or more proper persons to be serjeants to every company in the militia, and from time to time shall fill up vacancies out of his Majesty's other forces, with proper persons who shall have served in such other forces for the space of which serjeants so appointed shall take the oath of allegiance. And the service in the militia shall entitle to the benefit of Chelsea hospital.

That after any corps of militia shall have been inrolled, and formed for the space of or shall have been embodied, and called out into actual service, for the space of the captain or commanding officer shall fill up the vacancies of serjeants out of the corps. Provided that no person who shall keep any house of public entertainment, or who shall sell any ale, wine, brandy, or other spirituous liquors, by retail, shall be capable of being appointed or continuing a serjeant in the militia.—And it shall be lawful for the commanding officer of any corps of militia, to displace serjeants for misbehaviour; and he shall have the same power with regard to the appointment and dismission of corporals, drummers, and fifers.

That when any corps of militia shall be drawn out into actual service, and during the time they shall continue in such service, the commanding officer of such corps shall appoint an agent to such corps, and shall be accountable for, and make good, all deficiencies that may happen in respect of the pay, cloathing, or public stock, which shall be received by such agent.

That the number of private men to be raised shall be [for each county in Scotland, every one of which is particularly named.]

That the deputy-commissioners shall hold general meetings in the first year after for each county, &c. and one such general meeting every year afterwards; and they may appoint subdivision-meetings.

That the first general meeting shall be held on the in every year, or so soon after as conveniently may be: and this meeting shall require the session-clerk in each parish within the county, &c. to return to the next general meeting fair and true lists, in writing, of the names of all the men usually and at that time dwelling within their respective parishes, between the ages of and years complete, distinguishing their respective ranks and occupations, and which of the persons so returned labour under any infirmities, incapacitating them from serving as militia-men, having first affixed a true copy of such list on the door of the parish church or chapel, on some Sunday morning before they shall make such return, and also notice in writing, at the bottom of such list, of the day and place of such general or subdivision meeting respectively, and shall then attend, and verify the truth of such lists upon oath; and that all persons who shall think themselves aggrieved, may then appeal; and that no appeal will be afterwards received.

That no peer of this realm, nor any person who shall serve as a commission-officer, non-commission officer, or private man, serving in any of his Majesty's other forces, or any commission-officer serving, or who has served as a principal in the militia, nor any person being a member of any of the universities, nor any clergyman, nor any licensed teacher of any separate congregation, nor any ar-

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ticled clerk, apprentice, ſeaman, or ſeafaring man, nor any perſon muſtered and doing duty in any of his Majeſty's docks, nor any one who has a living child or children born in lawful wedlock, ſhall be compelled to ſerve perſonally, or provide a ſubſtitute to ſerve in the militia.

That if ſuch deputy-commiſſioners or juſtices of the peace ſhall, at any general or ſubdiviſion meeting, receive information, or ſhall ſuſpect, that any perſon inſerted in any liſt deſcribed as an apprentice, has been fraudulently bound an apprentice, in order to avoid ſerving in the militia, they ſhall enquire into ſuch binding ; and if ſuch fraud ſhall appear, they ſhall appoint ſuch perſon to ſerve immediately in the militia for the pariſh ; and the perſon to whom ſuch apprentice ſhall be ſo bound ſhall forfeit and immediately pay the ſum of

That if any ſeſſion-clerk ſhall refuſe or neglect to return ſuch liſts, or to comply with ſuch orders and directions as aforeſaid, or ſhall, in making ſuch return, be guilty of any fraud or wilful partiality, he ſhall forfeit and pay any ſum not exceeding

That any perſon who ſhall, by gratuity, or any undue means, or by menaces, endeavour to prevail on any ſeſſion-clerk, to make a falſe return of any liſt, or to eraſe or leave out of any liſt the name of any perſon who ought to be returned, or who ſhall refuſe to tell his Chriſtian and ſurname, or the Chriſtian and ſurname of any man lodging in his or her houſe, to any officer authoriſed to demand the ſame ; every ſuch perſon ſhall forfeit and pay the ſum of

That the deputy-commiſſioners and juſtices of the peace, after hearing ſuch perſons who ſhall think themſelves aggrieved by their names being inſerted in any ſuch liſt, or by any others being omitted, ſhall order ſuch liſt to be amended ; and, after ſuch liſts are ſo regulated, a fair copy thereof ſhall be made by the clerk of each general or ſubdiviſion meeting, and ſigned by the deputy-commiſſioners and juſtices, and forthwith tranſmitted to the clerk of the general meeting for ſuch county, &c. who ſhall give a receipt for the ſame ; and the clerk of the general meeting ſhall forthwith tranſmit ſuch liſts to his Majeſty's commiſſioners of ſuch county, &c. ; who ſhall thereupon appoint a general meeting of the deputy-commiſſioners ; which meeting ſhall direct what number of private militia-men ſhall ſerve for each reſpective ſubdiviſion, towards raiſing the whole number directed to be raiſed by ſuch county, &c. and ſhall alſo appoint proper times and places for holding a ſecond ſubdiviſion meeting ; and the clerk of ſuch general meeting ſhall forthwith tranſmit an account in writing, ſigned by the deputy commiſſioners, to each clerk of every ſubdiviſion-meeting in ſuch county, &c. of the numbers of private militia-men to be raiſed in ſuch ſubdiviſion.

That the deputy-commiſſioners and juſtices of the peace, ſhall appoint what number of men ſhall ſerve for each pariſh or place, and ſhall tranſmit an account thereof, under their hands, to the clerk of the peace, to be inrolled among the records of ſeſſion, and alſo to the receiver general of the land-tax.

That at ſuch ſubſequent general or ſubdiviſion meeting, any deputy-commiſſioners and juſtices of the peace, as aforeſaid, ſhall cauſe the number of men appointed to ſerve as aforeſaid, to be choſen by lot out of the liſts returned for ſuch pariſh or place ; and ſhall again appoint a general or ſubdiviſion meeting, within the ſpace of for ſwearing and inrolling the men.

That it ſhall not be lawful for any perſon to contract or agree with any perſon, to indemnify or inſure any perſon liable to ſerve in the militia, againſt ſerving therein, or in like manner to contract or agree to provide a ſubſtitute for any perſon who may be choſen by lot to ſerve in the militia, or to pay the penalty of by this act laid on any perſon choſen by lot to ſerve in the militia, who ſhall refuſe or neglect to appear, and take the oath, and ſerve in the militia, or provide a ſubſtitute ; and if any perſon ſhall offend herein, ſuch perſon ſhall, for every ſuch contract, &c. forfeit and pay the ſum of Provided that nothing herein contained ſhall extend to prevent any perſon who ſhall have been choſen by lot to ſerve in the militia, from procuring a proper perſon to ſerve as his ſubſtitute : Provided alſo, that nothing in this act ſhall extend to prevent perſons of the ſame pariſh or place, or of or more added together, from entering into ſubſcriptions amongſt themſelves for paying jointly for ſubſtitutes, who may be provided for ſuch of the ſubſcribers on whom the lot may fall.

That at the general or ſubdiviſion meeting for chuſing the men by lot, the conſtable,

conſtable, or other ſuch like officer, ſhall attend, and make a return upon oath of the days when ſuch notice was ſerved or left as aforeſaid; and every perſon ſo choſen by lot ſhall, upon ſuch notice, appear at ſuch meeting; and, in caſe of his chuſing to ſerve in perſon, there take the following oath, — "I A. B. do ſincerely promiſe and ſwear, That I will be faithful, and bear true allegiance, to his Majeſty King George, his heirs and ſucceſſors; and I do ſwear, that I am a Proteſtant, and that I will faithfully ſerve in the militia, within the kingdom of Great Britain, for the defence of the ſame, during the time for which I am inrolled, unleſs I ſhall be ſooner diſcharged," — (which oath any one deputy-commiſſioner or juſtice of the peace is hereby authoriſed to adminiſter); and ſhall be inrolled to ſerve in the militia of ſuch reſpective county, &c. as a private militia-man, for the ſpace of (with the exception to be afterwards mentioned), in a roll to be then and there prepared for that purpoſe; or ſhall provide a fit perſon, to be approved by any deputy-commiſſioners or juſtices of the peace at ſuch meeting, to ſerve as his ſubſtitute; which ſubſtitute ſhall take the oath, and ſign on the ſaid roll his conſent to ſerve as his ſubſtitute during the ſaid term; and if any perſon ſo choſen by lot to ſerve in the militia, ſhall refuſe or neglect to take the ſaid oath, and ſerve, or provide a ſubſtitute to be approved as aforeſaid, who ſhall take the ſaid oath, and ſign his conſent to ſerve as his ſubſtitute, every perſon ſo refuſing or neglecting ſhall forfeit and pay and at the expiration of be liable to ſerve again or provide a ſubſtitute; and the clerk of each ſubdiviſion-meeting ſhall make and ſend a fair copy of ſuch roll of the names of the men ſworn to ſerve in ſuch militia, and for what pariſhes or places reſpectively, ſigned by the deputy-commiſſioners or juſtices of the peace preſent, to the clerk of the general meeting.

That all ſums of money ariſing by forfeitures paid by perſons refuſing to ſerve in the militia perſonally or by ſubſtitute, ſhall be applied, in the firſt place, in providing a ſubſtitute for the perſon who ſhall have paid ſuch penalty; and the remainder ſhall be paid to the clerk of the corps, and applied as part of the ſtock of ſuch corps.

That no perſon ſhall be admitted to ſerve as a ſubſtitute, who ſhall not have had his ordinary reſidence in the county &c. for which he ſhall offer to ſerve, for kalendar months immediately preceeding; nor ſhall any perſon be admitted to ſerve as a ſubſtitute, who ſhall before have ſerved for either for the county for which he is propoſed as a ſubſtitute, or for any other in Scotland.

That within after the rolls ſhall be made up by the general meeting in counties, &c. the deputy commiſſioners therein ſhall hold another general meeting, and ſhall at ſuch meeting form and order the militia of ſuch county, &c. into battalions.

And whereas the militia-men appointed to ſerve as above for the counties of Selkirk, Peebles, Bute, Clackmannan, Kinroſs, Nairn, and Cromarty, will be too few to compoſe an independent company in each of the ſaid counties; be it therefore enacted, That the following counties ſhall be joined together, ſo as to form one joint body of militia for the counties ſo joined, viz. Selkirk and Peebles, Bute and Argyle, Clackmannan and Kinroſs, Nairn and Elgin, and Cromarty and Roſs.

That the deputy-commiſſioners at a general meeting, when the militia is not embodied and in actual ſervice, ſhall appoint the time, and place, or places, in every year, when the militia ſhall be trained and exerciſed for together, as ſhall be leaſt inconvenient to the public; during which time all the proviſions in any act for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters, ſhall extend to the officers and private militia-men of every corps of militia, but not to extend to life or limb; and if any militia-man (not labouring under any infirmity incapacitating him, or not having ſome other lawful cauſe or excuſe) ſhall not appear at ſuch time, and place, or places, of exerciſe, ſo appointed, he ſhall forfeit and pay the penalty of for every ſuch neglect; provided that no officer or private man ſhall be liable to any penalty or puniſhment for his abſence during the time he ſhall be going to vote at any election of a member to ſerve in parliament, or returning from ſuch election.

That if any militia-man, after having joined his corps, ſhall deſert during the time of annual exerciſe, and not be apprehended till after the expiration of the time of ſuch annual exerciſe, he ſhall incur the like penalty directed to be inflicted upon

upon militia-men not joining their corps.

That when the militia ſhall be called out to be trained and exerciſed, and alſo when they ſhall be called out to actual ſervice, the officers and private men ſhall be quartered and billeted, and the carriages neceſſary for them ſhall be furniſhed and performed, in the ſame manner as his Majeſty's other forces, by an act paſſed in this preſent year, *for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion*, &c.

That it ſhall be lawful for every captain or commanding officer of each company of militia, to put the corporals or private men of his company under ſtoppages, not exceeding a-day, for the purpoſe of ſupplying them and their wives with neceſſaries when called out to annual exerciſe; provided that ſuch officers ſhall account with each man for the ſaid ſtoppages before they ſhall be diſmiſſed from the annual exerciſe, having firſt deducted what ſhall have been laid out for them for neceſſaries, and repair of arms damaged by their neglect.

That all muſkets delivered for the ſervice of the militia, ſhall be marked diſtinctly in ſome viſible place with the letter M, and the name of the county, ſtewartry, or place, to which they belong; and the captain of each company ſhall have the care and cuſtody of the arms, cloaths, and accoutrements, provided for his company; and after the annual exerciſe is completed, every militia-man ſhall return his arms, cloaths, and accoutrements, well cleaned, and in good repair; or in default thereof, ſhall forfeit

That if any ſerjeant, drummer, corporal, or private militia-man, ſhall ſell, pawn, or loſe, any of his arms, cloaths, or accoutrements, or ſhall refuſe or neglect to return the ſame in good order, he ſhall, for every ſuch offence, forfeit and pay any ſum not exceeding

That the colonel or commanding officer of every battalion or corps of unembodied militia, as often as the ſame ſhall be called out to exerciſe, ſhall tranſmit to one of his Majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate a complete return, ſigned by him, of the ſeveral officers, non-commiſſioned officers, and private men, who ſerved therein at the time the ſame was ſo exerciſed, in manner and form following.—[Here a ſcheme of the return is inſerted.]—And ſuch ſecretary of ſtate ſhall cauſe a true copy of ſuch return to be annually laid before both houſes of parliament; and a like return ſhall be made to his Majeſty's commiſſioners of ſuch county, &c. and to the auditor of exchequer, and to the receiver-general of the land tax, and to the clerk of the peace; and ſuch clerk ſhall produce the ſame to the juſtices of the peace at their next general quarter-ſeſſions, and ſhall afterwards file the ſame amongſt the records of ſuch ſeſſions, and in default thereof ſhall forfeit his office, and ſhall for ever after be diſqualified from holding the ſame.

That in caſe of actual invaſion, or upon imminent danger thereof, or in caſe of rebellion in the kingdom of G. Britain, or in any of his Majeſty's dominions, it ſhall be lawful for his Majeſty (the occaſion being firſt communicated to parliament, if the parliament ſhall be then ſitting; or declared in council, and notified by proclamation, if no parliament ſhall be then ſitting) to order and direct his commiſſioners, or any deputy-commiſſioners of each county, &c. aforeſaid, with all convenient ſpeed to draw out and embody all or any of the battalions or corps of militia of their reſpective counties, &c. and ſhall order and direct them to be put under the command of ſuch general officers, and to be led to ſuch parts of the kingdom of G. Britain, as his Majeſty ſhall think proper; and that the officers of the militia, and private militia-men, during the time they ſhall be embodied, and in actual ſervice, ſhall remain under the command of ſuch general officers, and ſhall be intitled to the ſame pay, as the officers and private men in his Majeſty's other regiments of foot receive; and the officers of the militia ſhall, during ſuch time as aforeſaid, rank with the officers of his Majeſty's other forces of equal degree with them, as the youngeſt of their rank; and the officers, drummers, corporals, and private men, of ſuch militia, during the time they ſhall be in ſuch actual ſervice, ſhall be ſubject to all ſuch articles of war, as ſhall be then in force, for the puniſhing mutiny and deſertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters.

That no officer ſerving in the militia ſhall ſit in any court-martial upon the trial of any officer or ſoldier ſerving in any of his Majeſty's other forces, nor ſhall any officer ſerving in any of his Majeſty's other forces ſit in any court-martial upon the trial of any officer or private man ſerving in the militia.

That

That when the militia of any county, &c. ſhall be ordered out into actual ſervice, the commiſſioners of ſuch county, &c. ſhall draw upon the receiver-general of the land-tax in favour of the captain or commanding officer of each company of militia ſo ordered out, for ſuch ſum as will amount to for each private militia-man belonging to his company, to be paid over by ſuch captain, or other officer, to every ſuch private militia-man who belonged to his company at the time ſuch militia was ordered out into actual ſervice, on or before the day appointed for marching, and to ſuch militia-man who ſhall be afterwards ordered out, when he ſhall join his company, then being in actual ſervice; and the receiver-general of the land tax ſhall be allowed the ſame in his accounts.

That all ſuch militia men whoſe time of ſervice in the militia ſhall be near expiring, and who ſhall be then abſent from the county, &c. to which they belong, ſhall be returned or marched back into the ſame, in order that they may be as near their reſpective homes as poſſible at the expiration of their ſaid ſervice.

That in every ſuch county, &c. wherein the militia ſhall not be raiſed, and ſuch return as aforeſaid ſhall not be delivered to the clerk of the peace before the general quarter-ſeſſions of the peace to be held for ſuch county, &c. next after the in every year, ſuch clerk ſhall certify, under his hand, that he hath not received ſuch return; and the juſtices of the peace ſhall tranſmit the ſaid certificate to the convener of the commiſſioners of ſupply; who ſhall forthwith call a meeting of the ſaid commiſſioners; and the commiſſioners being ſo aſſembled, ſhall proceed to raiſe and levy, within ſuch county, &c. the ſum of in lieu of every private militia-man required to ſerve for the ſame as aforeſaid, in ſuch manner and in ſuch proportions as the land-tax have been uſually levied in ſuch county, &c. Provided that every perſon duly qualified, who ſhall have ſerved as an officer in the militia within G. Britain for or who ſhall be then actually ſerving as an officer, or who ſhall have duly offered to ſerve as an officer in ſuch militia in manner herein before directed, ſhall not be liable to pay any part or ſhare of ſuch rate or aſſeſſment, nor ſhall his lands, tenements, or hereditaments, be aſſeſſed or charged thereto; and his Majeſty's commiſſioners of every county, &c. where any ſuch perſon ſhall have ſerved as an officer of ſuch militia for the ſpace of, ſhall, on requeſt, grant to him a certificate thereof; and every ſuch commiſſioner, deputy-commiſſioner, or juſtice of the peace, before whom ſuch perſon ſhall offer to ſerve as an officer in the militia, ſhall, on requeſt, grant him a certificate thereof, in order that he may be exempted as aforeſaid.

That the ſaid ſums of directed to be raiſed for every militia-man required to ſerve for each county, &c. where ſuch militia ſhall not be raiſed as aforeſaid, ſhall be paid to the receiver-general of the land-tax within after the general quarter-ſeſſions of the peace that ſhall be held for ſuch county, &c. next after the in every year; who ſhall, within after the receipt thereof, account for and pay the ſame into the receipt of his Majeſty's exchequer at Weſtminſter, to be accounted for yearly to parliament; and the receiver-general of the land tax, for his trouble, ſhall be allowed in the pound, out of the money ſo received and paid by him, and no more; and every officer neceſſarily employed in collecting the ſaid ſums of money in the ſeveral pariſhes, and in accounting for and paying the ſame, ſhall be allowed in the pound, and no more, out of the money ſo received by him.

That no ſerjeant, corporal, drummer, fifer, or private man, ſerving in the militia, ſhall, during the time of ſuch ſervice, be liable to do any highway-duty, commonly called *ſtatute-work*, or be appointed to ſerve as a peace or pariſh officer, or be liable to ſerve in any of his Majeſty's land or ſea forces, unleſs he ſhall conſent thereto.

That if any non-commiſſion officer of the militia, or private militia-man, ſhall be maimed or wounded in actual ſervice, he ſhall be equally intitled to the benefit of Chelſea hoſpital with any non-commiſſion officer or private ſoldier belonging to his Majeſty's other forces; and that every ſuch perſon, having ſerved in the militia when called out into actual ſervice, and being a married man, may ſet up and exerciſe any trade in any place within G. Britain or Ireland, in like manner as any perſon who has ſerved in his Majeſty's navy, or regular land-forces, may do.

That it ſhall be optional to any battalion or independent company of militia,

tia, to be cloathed in the Highland dreſs, if the commanding officer thereof ſhall think fit.

That every private militia-man who ſhall have ſerved without being called out into actual ſervice, or who ſhall have ſerved in actual ſervice, ſhall, at the end of ſuch times reſpectively, be intitled to his military cloaths for his own uſe.

That if any ſervant hired by the year, or otherwiſe, ſhall ſerve in the militia, it ſhall be lawful for one juſtice of the peace, upon complaint made on oath by ſuch ſervant, to order ſo much of his wages as ſhall appear to ſuch juſtice to be due to him, to be immediately paid him by his maſter or employer, in proportion to the ſervice he has performed.

That no perſon having ſerved perſonally, or by ſubſtitute, in the militia, ſhall be obliged to ſerve again until by rotation it comes to his turn.

That no militia man, having ſerved as a ſubſtitute, ſhall be thereby exempted from ſerving for himſelf when he ſhall be choſen by lot.

That at the end of the years ſervice of any battalion or independent company of militia, part of the private men of ſuch battalion or independent company ſhall be diſcharged by ballot; and the private men ſo diſcharged, and alſo ſuch vacancies as may have happened, ſhall be ſupplied by ballot.

That if any militia-man ſhall change the place of his abode from one pariſh to another, without the conſent in writing of the captain or commanding officer of the company to which he belongs, he ſhall forfeit and pay any ſum not exceeding

That if any perſon who is ſworn and inrolled to ſerve in the militia, ſhall inliſt into his Majeſty's other forces, the colonel or commanding officer of ſuch regiment or corps in which he ſhall ſo inliſt, ſhall pay to the clerk of the corps of militia to which ſuch militia-man belongs, the ſum of which ſhall be applied towards finding another man to ſerve in the room of the perſon ſo inliſting.

That no officer, ſerjeant, or commander of a recruiting party of his Majeſty's other forces, ſhall beat up for recruits in any place where any corps of militia ſhall be aſſembled for exerciſe, nor ſhall inliſt any militia-man within before or after their being ſo aſſembled.

That if any perſon ſerving in any of his Majeſty's regular forces, ſhall offer to ſerve, and be inrolled, as a ſubſtitute in the militia, he ſhall, for every ſuch offence, forfeit and pay any ſum not exceeding

That if any clerk of the peace, conſtable, or other officer, ſhall be guilty of any neglect of duty, or ſhall not do and perform the ſeveral acts, matters, and things herein required of or by him, every ſuch clerk of the peace, &c. ſhall

That all fines, penalties, and forfeitures, by this act impoſed, the manner of recovery whereof is not hereby particularly provided for, ſhall, on complaint made before the ſheriff or ſtewart of ſuch county, ſtewartry, &c. where the cauſe of ſuch complaint ſhall ariſe, and ſufficient proof produced before ſuch ſheriff or ſtewart, on examining into the truth of ſuch complaint, be ordered to be paid; and, in default of ſuch payment, the ſheriff or ſtewart ſhall grant a warrant to levy the ſame by of the goods and chattels of ſuch offender; and of all ſuch fines, penalties, and forfeitures, ſhall be paid to and for the uſe of ſuch perſon or perſons who will inform or proſecute for the ſame, and to the clerk of the corps of militia ſerving for the county, &c. where ſuch offence ſhall be committed, and ſhall be made a common ſtock; and the clerk ſhall every account for the ſame to the commanding officer of ſuch corps; who ſhall apply the ſums thence ariſing to the neceſſary purpoſes of the corps; and if there be any overplus, ſhall, out of ſuch overplus, cauſe butts to be erected in ſome convenient places, and ſhall direct the clerk of ſuch corps to buy and provide, with ſome part of the money ſo ariſing, a proper quantity of gunpowder and ball, to be uſed at proper times by the militia-men of ſuch corps, in ſhooting at marks, and to apply ſuch other part of the money as he ſhall think reaſonable, in prizes to ſuch militia-man who ſhall be adjudged to be the beſt markſman, or in ſuch other ways, tending to the encouragement and improvement of the corps, as the commanding officer ſhall direct.

That if any perſon ſhall think himſelf aggrieved by the judgement of ſuch ſheriff or ſtewart, ſuch perſon may bring the ſaid judgement under review of the court of ſeſſion in common form; and till ſuch appeal ſhall be finally heard and deter-

determined, all proceedings on the original judgement ſhall be ſuſpended.

That if any ſuit ſhall be brought againſt any perſon for any thing done in purſuance of this act, ſuch ſuit ſhall be commenced within after the fact committed, and not afterwards.

That this act ſhall continue in force for years, and ti l the end of the then next ſeſſion of parliament.

March 5. 1776, the bill was read a ſecond time, and a motion made, that it ſhould be committed. This occaſioned a very warm debate.—The members who ſupported the bill were, George Dempſter, Eſq; Sir Gilbert, Elliot, Governor Johnſtone, Sir Adam Ferguſſon, and Lord Frederick Campbell: its principal opponents, Mr T. Townſhend, Lord John Cavendiſh, and Mr Burke.——The arguments of the latter patriotic gentlemen were levelled at militias in general, as fatal to the liberties of the country where ſuch policy prevails. They objected however to the ſcheme at preſent in agitation, not only on the general ground, but likewiſe on the ground of expence, and the diſproportion betwixt the quantum of taxes paid by the people of the ſouthern and northern parts of the iſland: That the numbers to be embodied in both kingdoms was in a proportion of one to five; whereas Scotland did not pay above one fourth of the land-tax, the very fund out of which the money for the pay and cloathing of the militia was to be drawn: five ſixths therefore of the expence of the Scots militia muſt be paid by Engliſh landowners.

Theſe arguments were ably anſwered by the gentlemen on the other ſide of the queſtion. It was urged, That well-ordered militias were the beſt preſervatives of the liberty of a country, as ſecuring the public tranquility; that the two rebellions in Scotland, during the preſent century, afforded a ſtrong example of the bad policy of the times, by which the loyal and peaceable part of the kingdom were left defenceleſs, and at the mercy of thoſe who were ill-affected to government: That as to the argument founded on the diſproportion of the revenues of the two kingdoms, it had more ſound than ſubſtance: the greateſt part of the landed income in Scotland was either ſpent actually in England, or in the conſumpt of Engliſh manufactures: That from the cloathing of the nobles of Scotland down to its peaſants, almoſt every article was the produce of England: That thus even England was enabled to pay her taxes from Scotland: At any rate, it would be moſt unjuſt, that Scotland, paying at the ſame rate of proportion with England, though from her narrower ability ſhe paid a much ſmaller ſum, ſhould, on that account, be deprived of the advantages of ſecurity and protection, the only means by which ſhe might be enabled to diſſolve that unfavourable inequality.

The queſtion being put, the bill was committed without oppoſition.

March 14. the order of the day being read for going into a committee, a motion was made on the part of the opponents of the bill, That, in order to confine the expence of the Scottiſh militia to the kingdom for whoſe benefit it was intended, the committee ſhould be inſtructed to make proviſion in the bill, for levying within each county ſuch a ſum as ſhould defray the expences of the number to be thence embodied. This occaſioned a debate, preciſely on the ſame grounds with the former; when, after a diviſion, the propoſed amendment was rejected by a majority of 67 to 54.

March 20. the houſe was moved to take the report of the committee on the militia-bill now into conſideration. Mr Townſhend moved an amendment, by propoſing to leave out the word *now*, and to inſert inſtead of it, at the end of the queſtion, *this day four months*. A debate enſued, in which the ſame arguments, equally reprobating militias in general, and that in queſtion in particular, were again hackney'd, with more abuſe in the manner, than difference in the matter. It was held out as a piece of equal inſolence and injuſtice in the Scots, that they ſhould expect, that England ſhould pay for their defence, becauſe they could not do it themſelves. In ſhort, the queſtion being put for Mr Townſhend's amendment, it carried in the affirmative, 112 to 93.

Thus the bill was thrown out for that ſeſſion; and will, in all probability, lie over till our neighbour kingdom becomes ſenſible, that, ſelfiſh as ſhe is, ſhe is blind to her neareſt intereſts; and that the peace and ſecurity of Scotland are the ſureſt baſis and beſt guardians of the wealth and liberties of England.

A ſimilar bill was thrown out in 1760.

The

The History of Europe for 1775. [641.]

British America, continued.

This proclamation was looked upon as the preliminary to immediate action. Accordingly, from that moment both sides held themselves in readiness for it. The post of Charlestown had hitherto been neglected by both the parties. The provincials thought it necessary for them, whether they should chuse to act on the defensive or offensive. They accordingly made the necessary preparations, and sent a body of men thither at night with the greatest privacy, to throw up works upon Bunker's-hill, an high ground that lies just within the isthmus, or neck of land, that joins the peninsula to the continent. This peninsula is very similar to that on which Boston stands, excepting that the isthmus is considerably wider, and that Bunker's-hill is much higher than any hill in the latter. The towns are only separated by Charles-river, which in that part is only about the breadth of the Thames between London and Southwark; so that Charlestown seemed to hold the same connection with Boston, that the borough does with that city.

The party that was sent upon this service, carried on their works with such extraordinary order and silence, that though the peninsula, was surrounded with ships of war, they were not heard during the night, and used such incredible dispatch in the execution, that they had a small but strong redoubt, considerable entrenchments, and a breast-work, that was in some parts cannon-proof, far advanced towards completion by break of day, June 17. The sight of the works, was the first notice that alarmed the Lively man of war early in the morning, and her guns called the town, camp, and fleet, to behold a sight which seemed little less than a prodigy.

A heavy and continual fire of cannon, howitzers, and mortars, was from thence carried on upon the works, from the ships, floating batteries, and from the top of Cop's-hill in Boston. Such a great and incessant roar of artillery, would have been a trial to the firmness of old soldiers, and must undoubtedly have greatly impeded the completion of the works; it is however said, that they bore this severe fire with wonderful firmness, and seemed to go on with their business as if no enemy had been near, nor danger in the service.

About noon, Gen. Gage caused a considerable body of troops to be embarked under the command of Maj.-Gen. Howe, and Brig.-Gen. Pigot, to drive the provincials from their works. This detachment consisted of ten companies of grenadiers, as many of light infantry, and the 5th, 38th, 43d, and 52d battalions, with a proper artillery, who were landed and drawn up without opposition, under the fire of the ships of war. The two generals found the enemy so numerous, and in such a posture of defence, that they thought it necessary to send back for a reinforcement before they commenced the attack; they were accordingly joined by some companies of light infantry and grenadiers, by the 47th regiment, and by the first battalion of marines, amounting in the whole, as represented by Gen. Gage's letter, to something more than 2000 men.

The attack was begun by a most severe fire of cannon and howitzers, under which the troops advanced very slowly towards the enemy, and halted several times, to afford an opportunity to the artillery to ruin the works, and to throw the provincials into confusion. Whatever it proceeded from, whether from the number, situation, or countenance of the enemy, or from all together, the King's forces seem to have been unusually staggered in this attack. The provincials threw some men into the houses of Charlestown, which covered their right flank, by which means, Gen. Pigot, who commanded our left wing, and to whose activity, bravery, and firmness, much of this day's success was owing, was at once engaged with the lines, and with those in the houses. In this conflict, Charlestown, whether by carcasses thrown from the ships, or by the troops, is uncertain, was unfortunately set on fire in several places, and burnt to the ground. The provincials stood this severe and continual fire of small arms and artillery, with a resolution and perseverance which would not have done discredit to old troops. They did not return a shot, until the King's forces had approached almost to the works; when a most dreadful fire took place, by which a number of our bravest men and officers fell. Some gentlemen who had served in the most distinguished actions of the last war, declared, that for the time it last-

laſted, it was the hotteſt engagement they ever knew. It is then no wonder, if under ſo heavy and deſtructive a fire, our troops were thrown into ſome diſorder. It is ſaid, that General Howe was for a few ſeconds left nearly alone; and it is certain, that moſt of the officers near his perſon were either killed or wounded. His coolneſs, firmneſs, and preſence of mind on this occaſion cannot be too much applauded. It fully anſwered all the ideas ſo generally entertained of the courage of his family. It is ſaid, that in this critical moment, Gen. Clinton, who arrived from Boſton during the engagement, by a happy manœuvre, rallied the troops almoſt inſtantaneouſly, and brought them again to the charge. However that was, their uſual intrepidity now produced its uſual effects; they atttacked the works with fixed bayonets, and irreſiſtible fury, and forced them in every quarter. Though many of the provincials were deſtitute of bayonets, and, as they affirm, their ammunition was expended, a number of them fought deſperately within the works, and were not drove from them without difficulty. They at length retreated over Charleſtown neck, which was enfiladed by the guns of the Glaſgow man of war, and of two floating batteries. They ſuffered but little loſs from this formidable artillery, though the dread of it had prevented ſome regiments who were ordered to ſupport them from fulfilling their duty.

Thus ended the hot and bloody affair of Bunker's-hill, in which we had more men and officers killed and wounded, in proportion to the number engaged, than in any other action which we can recollect. The whole loſs in killed and wounded amounted to 1054, of whom 226 were killed; of theſe nineteen were commiſſioned officers, including a lieutenant-colonel, two majors, and ſeven captains; ſeventy other officers were wounded. Among thoſe who were more generally regretted upon this occaſion, were Lt-Col. Abercromby, and the brave Maj. Pitcairne of the marines. The Majors Williams and Spendlove, the laſt of whom died of his wounds ſome time after the action, had alſo ſealed their lives with ſuch diſtinguiſhed honour, as to render their loſs the more ſenſibly felt. The event ſufficiently ſhewed the bravery of the King's troops. There was ſcarcely a ſingle officer who had not ſome opportunity of ſignalizing himſelf; the generals and field-officers uſed the moſt extraordinary exertions. All theſe circumſtances concur in ſhewing the hard and dangerous ſervice in which they were engaged. The battle of Quebec in the late war, with all its glory, and the vaſtneſs of the conſequences of which it was productive, was not ſo deſtructive to our officers, as this affair of a retrenchment caſt up in a few hours. It was a matter of grievous reflection, that thoſe brave men, many of whom had nobly contributed their ſhare, when engaged againſt her natural enemies, to extend the military glory of their country into every quarter of the globe, ſhould now have ſuffered ſo ſeverely, in only a prelude to this unhappy civil conteſt.

The fate of Charleſtown was alſo a matter of melancholy contemplation to the ſerious and unprejudiced of all parties. It was the firſt ſettlement made in the colony, and was conſidered as the mother of Boſton, that town owing its birth and nurture to emigrants from the former. Charleſtown was large, handſome, and well built, both in reſpect to its public and private edifices; it contained about 400 houſes, and had the greateſt trade of any port in the province excep' Boſton. It is ſaid, that the two ports cleared out a thouſand veſſels annually for a foreign trade, excluſive of an infinite number of coaſters. It is now buried in its ruins. Such is the termination of human labour, induſtry, and wiſdom; and ſuch are the fatal fruits of civil diſſenſions.

The King's troops took five pieces of cannon out of ſix, which the provincials brought into the peninſula; and they left about thirty wounded behind them. No other priſoners were taken. Their loſs, according to an account publiſhed by the provincial congreſs, was comparatively ſmall, amounting to about 450, killed, wounded, miſſing, and priſoners. On our ſide they are confident, that the ſlaughter was much more conſiderable; but of this we had no particulars, as the account ſaid, that the provincials buried a great number of their dead during the engagement. This is an extraordinary circumſtance. But the loſs they lamented moſt, was that of Dr Warren, who acting as a major-general, commanded the party upon this occaſion, and was killed, fighting bravely at their head, in a little redoubt to the right of the lines. This gentleman, who was rendered conſpicuous by his general merit, abilities,

abilities, and eloquence, had been one of the delegates to the firſt general congreſs, and was at this time preſident of the provincial congreſs; but quitting the peaceable walk of his profeſſion as a phyſician, and breaking through the endearing ties of family-ſatisfactions, he ſhewed himſelf equally calculated for the field, as for public buſineſs or private ſtudy, and ſhed his blood gallantly in, what he deemed, the ſervice of his country. They loſt ſome other officers of name; one of whom, a lieutenant-colonel, died of his wounds in the priſon at Boſton.

Both ſides claimed much honour from this action. The regulars, from having, it was ſaid, beaten three times their own number out of a ſtrongly-fortified poſt, and under various other diſadvantages. On the other ſide, they repreſented the regulars as amounting to 3000 men, and rated their own number only at 1500; and pretended, that this ſmall body not only withſtood their attack, and repeatedly repulſed them with great loſs, notwithſtanding the powerful artillery they had brought with them, but that they had at the ſame time, and for ſeveral hours before, ſuſtained a moſt intolerable fire, from the ſhips of war, floating batteries, and fixed battery at Boſton, which prevented them from being able in any degree to finiſh their works. What their exact number was, cannot be eaſily known. It was not probably ſo large as it was made in the Gazette account; nor ſo ſmall as in that given by the Americans. However, the provincials were by no means diſpirited by the event of this engagement. They had ſhewn a great degree of activity and ſkill in the conſtruction of the inworks; and of conſtancy, in maintaining them under many diſadvantages. They ſaid, that though they had loſt a poſt, they had almoſt all the effects of the moſt complete victory; as they entirely put a ſtop to the offenſive operations of a large army ſent to ſubdue them; and which they continued to blockade in a narrow town. They now exulted, that their actions had thoroughly refuted thoſe aſperſions which had been thrown upon them in England, of a deficiency in ſpirit and reſolution.

From this time, the troops kept poſſeſſion of the peninſula, and fortified Bunker's-hill and the entrance; ſo that the force at Boſton was now divided into two diſtinct parts, and had two garriſons to maintain. In one ſenſe, this was uſeful to the troops, as it enlarged their quarters; they having been before much incommoded by the ſtreightneſs in which they were confined in Boſton, during the exceſſive heats that always prevail there at that ſeaſon of the year. But this advantage was counterbalanced by the great additional duty which they were now obliged to perform. Their ſituation was irkſome and degrading. They were ſurrounded and inſulted by an enemy, whom they had been taught to deſpiſe. They were cut off from freſh proviſions, and all thoſe refreſhments, of which they ſtood in the greateſt need, and which the neighbouring countries afforded in the greateſt plenty. Thus their wants were continual and aggravating remembrancers of the circumſtances of their ſituation. Bad and ſalt proviſions, with confinement, and the heat of the climate, naturally filled the hoſpitals; and the number of ſick and wounded was now ſaid to amount to 1600. Under theſe circumſtances it was rather wonderful that the number was not greater. But few in compariſon died.

The provincials, after the action at Bunker's-hill, immediately threw up works upon another hill oppoſite to it on their ſide of Charleſtown neck; ſo that the troops were as cloſely inveſted in that peninſula as they had been in Boſton. They were alſo indefatigable in ſecuring the moſt expoſed poſts of their lines with ſtrong redoubts covered with artillery, and advanced their works cloſe to the fortifications on Boſton neck; where, with equal boldneſs and addreſs, they burnt an advanced guard-houſe belonging to our people. As the latter were abundantly furniſhed with all manner of military ſtores and artillery, they were not ſparing in throwing ſhells, and ſupporting a great cannonade upon the works of the provincials, which had little other effect than to inure them to that ſort of ſervice, and to wear off the dread of thoſe noiſy meſſengers of fate. On the other ſide they ſeem to have been cautious in expending their powder.

A regiment of light cavalry which arrived at Boſton from Ireland, and which were never able to ſet foot beyond that garriſon, ſerved only to create new wants, and to increaſe the incommodities of the people, as well as of the army. The hay which grew upon the iſlands in the bay, became now an ob-

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ject of neceſſary attention, as well as the ſheep and cattle which they contained; but the provincials having procured a number of whaling-boats, and being maſters of the ſhore and inlets of the bay, were, notwithſtanding the vigilance and number of the ſhips of war and armed veſſels, too ſucceſsful in burning, deſtroying, or carrying away, thoſe eſſential articles of ſupply. Theſe enterpriſes brought on ſeveral ſkirmiſhes: and they grew at length ſo daring, that they burnt the light-houſe, which was ſituated on an iſland at the entrance of the harbour, though a man of war lay within a mile of them at the time; and ſome carpenters being afterwards ſent, under the protection of a ſmall party of marines, to erect a temporary light-houſe, they killed or carried off the whole detachment.

During theſe tranſactions a kind of predatory war commenced, and has ſince continued, between the ſhips of war, and the inhabitants on different parts of the coaſts. The former, being refuſed the ſupplies of proviſions and neceſſaries which they wanted for themſelves or the army, endeavoured to obtain them by force, and in theſe attempts were frequently oppoſed, and ſometimes repulſed with loſs, by the country-people. The ſeizing of ſhips in conformity to the new laws, or to the commands of the admiral, was alſo a continual ſource of animoſity and violence; the proprietors naturally hazarding all dangers in the defence, or for the recovery, of their property. Theſe conteſts drew the vengeance of the men of war upon ſeveral of the ſmall towns upon the ſea-coaſts, ſome of which underwent a ſevere chaſtiſement.

The pernicious conſequences of the late Quebec act, with reſpect to the very purpoſes for which it was framed, were now diſplayed, in a degree which its moſt ſanguine opponents could ſcarcely have expected. Inſtead of gaining the French Canadians to the intereſt of government by that law, the great body of the inhabitants were found as adverſe to it, and as much diſguſted at its operation, as even the Britiſh ſettlers. Gen. Carleton, the governor of that province, who had placed much confidence in the raiſing of a conſiderable army of Canadians, and being enabled to march at their head to the relief of Gen. Gage, (a matter which was ſo much relied upon at home, that 20,000 ſtands of arms, and a great quantity of other military ſtores, had been ſent out for that purpoſe), found himſelf now totally diſappointed. The people ſaid, that they were now under the Britiſh government; that they could not pretend to underſtand the cauſes of the preſent diſputes, nor the juſtice of the claims on either ſide; that they did, and would ſhew themſelves dutiful ſubjects, by a quiet and peaceable demeanor, and due obedience to the government under which they were placed; but that it was totally inconſiſtent with their ſtate and condition, to interfere, or in any degree to render themſelves parties, in the conteſts that might ariſe between that government and its ancient ſubjects. It was in vain that the governor iſſued a proclamation for aſſembling the militia, and for the execution of martial law: they ſaid they would defend the province if it was attacked; but they abſolutely refuſed to march out of it, or to commence hoſtilities with their neighbours. The governor, as the laſt reſort, applied to the Biſhop of Quebec, to uſe his ſpiritual influence and authority with the people towards diſpoſing them to the adoption of this favourite meaſure; and particularly that he would iſſue an epiſcopal mandate for that purpoſe, to be read by the pariſh-prieſts in the time of divine ſervice. But the Biſhop excuſed himſelf from a compliance with this propoſition, by repreſenting, that an epiſcopal mandate on ſuch a ſubject, would be contrary to the canons of the Roman-Catholic church. The eccleſiaſtics, in the place of this, iſſued other letters; which were however pretty generally diſregarded. The nobleſſe alone, who were chiefly conſidered in the Quebec act, ſhewed a zeal againſt the Engliſh coloniſts. But, ſeparated as they were from the great body of the people, they exhibited no formidable degree of ſtrength.

Other endeavours which were uſed to involve the colonies in domeſtic troubles proved equally abortive. Conſiderable pains were taken, by the means of ſeveral agents who had influence on them, to engage thoſe numerous tribes of Indians that ſtretch along the backs of the colonies, to cauſe a diverſion, by attacking them in thoſe weak and tender parts. But neither preſents, nor perſuaſions, were capable of producing the deſired effect. From whatever chance or fortune it proceeded, thoſe ſavage warriors, who had at other times been ſo ready to take

take up the hatchet without ſupport or encouragement, now turned a deaf ear to all propoſals of that nature, and declared for a neutrality. They uſed much the ſame reaſons for this conduct that the Canadians had done: They did not underſtand the ſubject; were very ſorry for the preſent unfortunate diſputes; but it was not fit nor becoming for them, to take any part in quarrels between Engliſhmen, for all of whom, on both ſides of the water, they had the higheſt affection. This was an object of too much importance to be overlooked by the congreſs. They accordingly employed proper perſons to cultivate favourable diſpoſitions in the Indians; and by degrees took ſuch meaſures as obliged the agents for government to provide for their own ſafety. It is ſaid, that ſome of the Indians made propoſals to take up arms on their ſide; but that they were only requeſted to obſerve a ſtrict neutrality.

Gen. Gage's late proclamation increaſed the animoſity, indignation, and rage, which were already ſo generally prevalent, and brought out a declaration from the general congreſs, July 6. which, in the nature of thoſe general appeals that are made to mankind, as well as to Heaven, in a declaration of war, ſet forth the cauſes and neceſſity of their taking up arms [xxxvii. 423.].—— This declaration was read with great, ſerious, and even religious ſolemnity, to the different bodies of the army who were encamped around Boſton, and was received by them with loud acclamations of approbation.

This declaration was followed by an addreſs to the inhabitants of Great Britain; another to the people of Ireland; and a petition to the King [xxxvii. 427. 431, 84.] All theſe writings were drawn up in a very maſterly manner: and are, in reſpect to art, addreſs, and execution, equal to any public declarations made by any powers upon the greateſt occaſions.

The congreſs had in their declaration, without naming it, reprobated the principles of Lord North's conciliatory propoſition, which they call an inſidious manœuvre adopted by parliament. They, however, afterwards took the reſolution more formally into conſideration. It had been communicated to them by direction, or at leaſt permiſſion, from that miniſter, in the hand-writing of Sir Grey Cowper, one of the two principal ſecretaries of the treaſury. [133. xxxvii. 487.]

The colony of Georgia at length joined in the general alliance. A provincial congreſs having aſſembled in the beginning of the month of July, they ſpeedily agreed to all the reſolutions of the two general congreſſes in their utmoſt extent, and appointed five delegates to attend the preſent. As it were to make amends for the delay, they at once entered into all the ſpirit of the reſolutions formed by the other colonies, and adopted ſimilar; and declared, that though their province was not included in any of the oppreſſive acts lately paſſed againſt America, they conſidered that circumſtance as an inſult rather than a favour, as being done only with a view to divide them from their American brethren. They alſo addreſſed a petition, under the title of an humble addreſs and repreſentation, to his Majeſty; which, however threadbare the ſubject had already been worn, was not deficient in a certain freſhneſs of colouring, which gave it the appearance of novelty [xxxvii. 549.]. From this acceſſion to the confederacy, they henceforward aſſumed the appellation of the *Thirteen United Colonies*.

In the mean time the general congreſs, in compliance with the wiſhes of the people in general, and the particular application of the New-England provinces, appointed George Waſhington, Eſq; a gentleman of affluent fortune in Virginia, and who had acquired conſiderable military experience in the command of different bodies of the provincials during the laſt war, to be general and commander in chief of all the American forces. They alſo appointed Artemus Ward, Charles Lee, Philip Schuyler, and Iſrael Putnam, Eſqs, to be major-generals; and Horatio Gates, Eſq; adjutant-general. Of theſe general officers, Lee and Gates were Engliſh gentlemen, who had acquired honour in the laſt war, and who from diſguſt or principle now joined the Americans. Ward and Putnam were of Maſſachuſet's bay, and Schuyler of New York. The congreſs alſo fixed and aſſigned the pay of both officers and ſoldiers; the latter of whom were much better provided for than thoſe upon our eſtabliſhment.

The Generals Waſhington and Lee arrived at the camp before Boſton in the beginning of July. They were treated with the higheſt honours in every place through

through which they paſſed; were eſcorted by large detachments of volunteers, compoſed of gentlemen, in the different provinces; and received public addreſſes from the provincial congreſſes of New York and Maſſachuſet's-bay. The military ſpirit was now ſo high and ſo general, that war and its preparations occupied the hands and the minds of all orders of people throughout the continent. Perſons of fortune and family, who were not appointed officers, entered chearfully as private men, and ſerved with alacrity in the ranks. Even many of the younger Quakers forgot their paſſive principles or forbearance and non-reſiſtance, and, taking up arms, formed themſelves into companies at Philadelphia, and applied with the greateſt labour and aſſiduity to acquire a proficiency in military exerciſes and diſcipline. It was ſaid, (but no computation of that ſort can be aſcertained), that no leſs than 200,000 men were in arms and training throughout the continent.

The blockade of Boſton, was continued with little variety, throughout the year, and during a conſiderable part of the enſuing. The troops, as well as the remaining inhabitants, ſuffered much from fevers, fluxes, and the ſcurvy, which were brought on through confinement, heat of weather, and badneſs of proviſions. Other matters which originated in this ſeaſon, particularly the proceedings on the ſide of Canada, being extended in their principal conſequences into the enſuing year, will with more propriety find a place in its hiſtory.

Spain.

Europe has not for a long time been ſo deſtitute of matter for political ſpeculation, as in the year of which we treat. The keeping up of vaſt ſtanding armies, and an avidity for increaſing them equal to what the moſt immediate danger could excite, are now become ſo common, as neither to produce ſurpriſe or apprehenſion. Reviews, encampments, with the continual marching and manœuvring of troops, are grown equally familiar; they are conſidered as common occurrences, and paſſed over without notice or obſervation. The ſmall princes find other amuſements to call off their attention from military and political affairs; matters in which, in the preſent ſtate of a few overgrown powers, they are indeed but little concerned. The great powers are ſo nearly poiſed, as neither wantonly to ſeek, nor much to dread a rupture. Thus a general diſtribution of ſtrength is capable of producing the ſame effects, which a general imbecility has often done. Europe, however, has the ſeeds of contention at all times plentifully lodged in her boſom, and her fertile ſoil, in a favourable ſeaſon, makes them ſhoot with wonderful luxuriance. A ſmall change in the circumſtances of any of the leading parties, would ſoon involve the reſt in its conſequences, and might, without the concurrence of any improbable, or even very extraordinary events, give a new face to the preſent political ſyſtem.

It was reſerved for the Spaniſh monarch, to attract this year the general attention. The vaſt preparations he made for chaſtizing the ſtates of Barbary, ſeemed ſo much beyond their object, that the tribe of politicians, who are generally apt to refine upon the ſimpleſt things, and to ſuſpect ſome myſtery in the moſt obvious, predicted danger to more than one of his neighbours. Indeed, theſe preparations were ſo mighty, that they might well alarm any of thoſe who ſuppoſed themſelves liable to be their object; and it is not improbable that ſome apprehenſions were raiſed, which were only removed when their ultimate deſtination was aſcertained by the event.

The ſtate of Algiers, however, expected and prepared for this attack. Their preſent Dey is a man of ability; and has taken certain meaſures which render it ſuſpected, that he has formed a deſign of perpetuating that government in his family. He left nothing undone to render the place ſecure; and procured ſome Chriſtian engineers to conſtruct new batteries, and ſtrengthen the old works. Though the fortifications are conſiderable, and covered by an enormous artillery, an enemy has ſtill greater obſtacles to encounter in the nature of the climate, and of the adjoining country; the heat of the weather, with the ſcarcity of water, and the lightneſs and ſandineſs of the ſoil, rendering the ſubſiſtence and operations of an army extremely difficult. To theſe obſtructions may be added a ſtill greater, in the dangerous nature of a moſt turbulent ſea, and of an open inhoſpitable coaſt, which for a long extent affords no ſhelter to the fleet, which muſt indiſpenſably cover and ſupport an army in ſuch an enterpriſe. The Algerines are not, however, deſtitute of a

bold and daring militia; but have a ſtill much greater reſource, in the courage and numbers of the native Moors, and numerous tribes of Arabs, who overſpread their extenſive territories; and who, however they may ſtand affected to the ſtate of Algiers, are always ready, from the mortal averſion they bear the Spaniards, to engage in any oppoſition or enterpriſe againſt them.

The former have at all times been peculiarly unfortunate in their attempts upon Africa. It would ſeem as if Providence intended, upon thoſe occaſions, to puniſh them, for the cruelty and injuſtice which they practiſed upon the Moors in Spain. The fatal expedition of Charles V. to Algiers, in which he loſt the fineſt army, and ruined the moſt powerful navy then in Europe, is well known. Neither have the attempts of other European powers upon that city been attended with much honour or advantage. Theſe circumſtances, however, were not ſufficient to deter the preſent King of Spain, from going to an immenſe expence, and fitting out a prodigious armament by ſea and land for the deſtruction of that piratical city and ſtate.

The ſiege of Melille was unſucceſsfully continued by the Emperor of Morocco till the middle of March, and then diſgracefully abandoned; his troops being ſo much diſpirited by their continual loſſes, and the bravery and perſeverance of the garriſon, that he did not venture to make uſe of the ſcaling ladders, and other materials which he had prepared for a general aſſault. His attempts upon Penon de Velez were equally fruitleſs. In a word, no prince ever entered into a war more wantonly, or conducted it more ſhamefully. Yet, in theſe circumſtances, and under the terrors of a Spaniſh invaſion, he refuſed all propoſals of accommodation with the Dutch, with whom he perſiſted in carrying on a war, which was as ill-founded, and as ineffectually ſupported, as the former. So wild and unaccountable are the politics of ignorant and deſpotic princes.

In the mean time all Spain ſeemed to be in motion. The ports were all crowded and in action; tranſports of all nations collected; great bodies of troops arriving every day in the borders of the Mediterranean; and every kind of military machine for defence or deſtruction, were plentifully ſtored on board the different fleets at Carthagena, Cadiz, and Barcelona. The tranſports were ballaſted with bricks, which evidenced an intention of conſtructing fortifications and works; and a number of carpenters, ſmiths, bricklayers, and artificers neceſſary for ſuch a purpoſe, were accordingly ſhipped.

The whole force aſſembled at length at Carthagena; and is ſaid to have conſiſted of ſeven ſail of the line, of 74 guns each; eight of 40 guns; thirty-two frigates from 20 to 36 guns; and about twenty ſmaller armed veſſels of different conſtructions; with 400 tranſports, and 19,000 ſeamen and marines. On board this navy was an infantry of 22,000 men, and 4000 cavalry, all compoſed of the moſt diſtinguiſhed regiments and beſt troops in Spain, with a prodigious artillery, ſaid to amount in the whole, for the field and for battery, to 400 pieces, and 2000 men belonging to the train. This formidable force was provided with ſuch immenſe quantities of ſtores, proviſions, and neceſſaries, as ſeemed calculated for the eſtabliſhment and ſupport of a great and numerous colony. Several men of war were alſo equipped and in readineſs in different ports, to ſupport this armament in any emergency. The marine was commanded by Don Pedro Caſtejon, and the land-forces by Count O'Reily, who had for ſome time ſtood very high in eſtimation in the Spaniſh ſervice. Such a force, in its modern ſtate of barbariſm and imbecility, ſeemed ſufficient to overwhelm all Africa.

The fleet being detained near a month by contrary winds, did not arrive in the bay of Algiers till the beginning of July; where the commanders found every appearance of a reſolute and vigorous defence. They ſeem to have been undetermined for ſome time, in what manner to effect a debarkation: at length, a part of the fleet was employed to divert the attention of the enemy by a falſe attack upon ſome forts near the town, while the remainder were drawn off to cover the troops in their landing. The ſhips that attacked the forts ſeem to have conducted their buſineſs very badly, and ſuffered accordingly; but more through miſconduct, than any deſign of approaching too cloſely to the enemy. In the mean time, the firſt debarkation of the troops was ſucceſsfully effected; about 8000 men being landed by four o'clock in the morning, and the remainder following with great expedition. The falſe attacks

attacks had not deceived the Algerines, and the Spaniards found all the neighbouring hills covered with great bodies of Moors, who, though not drawn up in much military order, ſhewed the greateſt eagerneſs to engage them.

The General's intention was, to take poſſeſſion of a hill which commanded the landing-place, and immediately to throw up ſuch works as would have rendered it a ſecure place of arms. By this means a ſafe communication would have been eſtabliſhed with the fleet, their artillery would have kept the enemy at a proper diſtance, and the preparations for the ſiege would have been conducted with due leiſure, and the arrangements accordingly properly laid. To inſure ſucceſs to his deſign, the General had ordered the troops of the firſt diviſion to form immediately upon the beach, and ſtrictly forbid their advancing upon the enemy until the ſecond debarkation was effected, and the whole army ſupported by its artillery, drawn up in order of battle. This ſcheme, however well laid, was overthrown by that inherent averſion which ſubſiſts between the Spaniards and Moors; an averſion in its effects that ſeems to equal that natural antipathy which is ſuppoſed to render certain animals incapable of enduring each others ſight, without inſtantaneous efforts of mutual deſtruction.

The firſt diviſion, with a temerity and contempt of command that diſgraced all diſcipline, and in which the commanders were equally culpable, and much more to be condemned than the ſoldiers, quitted the ſecurity which their ſtation under the guns of the fleet afforded, and diſdaining to wait for their fellows, ruſhed on to the attack, and found themſelves in a few minutes moſt deſperately engaged with the Moors, who, equally eager for the encounter, gave them a reception which they little expected. The conſequences of this unfortunate act could not be retrieved. The ſucceeding troops, as faſt as they landed, ran of neceſſity to the ſuccour of their friends; who they ſaw overborne by the ſuperior numbers and deſperate courage of the enemy; and were themſelves ſoon involved in ſimilar circumſtances, and equally in want of ſupport. The engagement laſted with the greateſt fury on both ſides for thirteen hours, when the Spaniards were at length obliged to retire with great loſs under the cover of their ſhips; and, notwithſtanding the exceſſive fatigues they had undergone in the courſe of the day, found it neceſſary to take the immediate advantage of the night for a reimbarkation.

It muſt ſeem aſtoniſhing, according to the ideas which we generally form of the nature, diſcipline, and arms of Mooriſh troops, that almoſt any ſuperiority in number which we can well ſuppoſe, ſhould enable them for ſo long a time to withſtand and repel the aſſaults of ſo regular, powerful, and well-appointed a force: for though the Spaniards, through their raſhneſs and intemperance, gave up ſome of thoſe advantages which they derived from military ſkill, arms, and diſcipline, they ſtill retained ſo many others as it would ſeem might have more than counterbalanced that difference. It is reported, that the national pride was much wounded, and jealouſy excited, by the appointment of a foreigner to the ſupreme command, in an expedition of ſuch importance, and from which ſo much glory was expected; and that they particularly thought, as the conteſt was purely Spaniſh, and a point of rivalſhip with their hereditary enemies, Spaniards alone ſhould bear the palm of victory. The ſame accounts ſay, that the General met with a violent oppoſition in the final council of war, and that his opponents there were among the foremoſt of thoſe, who, by their raſhneſs and diſobedience, counteracted his deſigns.

Upon a medium of the Spaniſh accounts, (which are extremely defective), their loſs appears to have been from ſix to 800 ſlain, and about 2000 wounded. Some foreign accounts ſtate the loſs at double that number, which, conſidering the length of the engagement, the fury of the combatants, and the number of officers of rank who were killed or wounded, does not appear improbable. Theſe accounts recite many other particulars, on the veracity of which we have no authority to decide. They repreſent, that the Spaniards had landed their proviſions, and many of their other ſtores, the loſs of which occaſioned the ſudden and unexpected return of the fleet and army, without attempting any further ſervice. This meaſure might however have been juſtified by the great number of ſick and wounded, without recurring to any other cauſe. They likewiſe ſay, that the Spaniſh marine behaved very badly; that their dread of falling by any accident in-

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to the hands of the Moors, had ſo powerful an operation, as to render them too cautious in approaching the ſhore; and that all the eſſential ſervice in that reſpect had been performed by two Malteſe men of war, who behaved with their uſual bravery. As the character of the Spaniards has ever been clear in the point of valour, this account muſt be received with caution and limitation. However theſe matters may be, this expedition muſt be ranked amongſt the moſt diſgraceful in its event, as well as the moſt formidable in its preparations, of any in the preſent age.

The clamours of the people, in which they were ſupported by ſome of the great families, were outrageous againſt the General. They were deſirous of offering him as a ſacrifice to the national honour, and to the manes of their deceaſed friends. This is the uſual ebullition of national vanity, which will ever ſeek ſome foreign object of reſentment, on which, if poſſible, to heap its own diſgrace. The King, on the contrary, did not ſeem at all diſſatisfied with the conduct of the General. He, however, complied ſo far with the opinions or prejudices of the people, as to remove him from the military department, and to afford him a very honourable retirement, in the important government of the province of Andaluſia.

Other expeditions were threatened, and a continued and expenſive courſe of preparation was carried on during the year, which, as nothing was undertaken, cannot well be accounted for. The Emperor of Morocco was ſo much alarmed by the late preparations, and diſpirited by his ill ſucceſs, that he ſolicited for peace with great earneſtneſs; and at length obtained leave to ſend a miniſter for that purpoſe to Madrid. The Spaniſh court was very haughty in its demands; and inſiſted, beſides other conditions, on the payment of four millions of dollars, for the expences of the war; the ceſſion of a conſiderable territory round each of the Spaniſh fortreſſes in Africa; and that he ſhould alſo cede to Spain the port of Tetuan, and the iſland of Mogador. This affair was in agitation at the time of the failure of the late expedition; an event which poſſibly had ſome influence in directing the Emperor's anſwer; though it is alſo probable, that a compliance with the payment of the great ſum of money demanded, was much beyond his ability; and the ceſſion of Tetuan and Mogador could only be expected, if a Spaniſh army was advancing to his capital. However it was, he totally rejected the propoſed conditions. The war has been ſince confined to ſeveral ſevere engagements between the Barbary cruiſers and the Spaniſh ſhips of war, in which the former always fought with great obſtinacy, and were generally great ſufferers.

Italy.

The intrigues of the conclave were at length terminated by the election of a Sovereign Pontiff, Feb. 14.; who owed his elevation more to the colliſion, artifices, and refinement in fineſſe, of the different parties, than to any weight of his own, or intention of theirs. The zealots are ſaid to have carried the point by a fortunate ſtroke, and the exact timing of a critical opportunity; and the event is ſaid, in the public papers, but we are not clear upon what authority, to have been ſo unexpected, that, without any particular exception to the object of choice, the aſtoniſhment of the people prevented their ſhewing the uſual marks of joy upon the publication of the election.

John Angelo Braſchi, the preſent Pope, and who, upon his election to the pontifical chair, aſſumed the name of Pius VI. was born at Ceſena, near Ravenna, in the Romagna, on the 27th of December 1717. He is of one of the moſt ancient and illuſtrious families in that province; and is ſaid to have a fine perſon, with a great ſhare of ſenſe, vivacity, and knowledge. He was greatly eſteemed by Benedict XIV. who employed him in tranſacting many affairs of importance; upon which occaſions he was always diſtinguiſhed by his diſintereſtedneſs, zeal, and ability. He was likewiſe in favour with the late Pope; from whom in 1773 he obtained a cardinal's hat, and was ſoon after appointed treaſurer of the apoſtolic chamber. Though poſſeſſed of only a moderate fortune, he is ſaid to have managed it in ſuch a manner, as to have given frequent and undoubted proofs, both of the generoſity of his heart, and the magnificence of his diſpoſition. In a word, if he really poſſeſſes the qualities which are aſcribed to him, the electors could not, perhaps, have better diſpoſed of their ſuffrages.

He

He eaſily found means, in the opening of his government, to acquire that popularity which ſeemed wanting at his acceſſion. Among other meaſures for this purpoſe, he conſiderably lowered the price of butchers meat, and privately reimburſed the butchers the loſs which they ſuſtained. Such little ſtratagems, however trifling they appear, are equally laudable, and neceſſary to gain the affections of a people. By what hitherto appears of it, his reign promiſes to be proſperous, and his government ſuch as will render his people happy. He ſeems liberal in diſpoſition and manners, eaſy of acceſs, unconnected with parties, and ſo totally free from bigotry, as to appear even a friend to toleration. We are however aware of the common error, of expecting too much from the virtues of new princes.

The new pontiff iſſued an ordinance for the better regulation of the clergy in Rome, by which they are forbidden, under the moſt rigorous penalties, from appearing in the habits of the laity, from entering coffee or gaming houſes, from walking in the evenings with the other ſex, and from entertaining any female domeſtics under forty years of age. He alſo cauſed a ſtrict ſcrutiny to be made into the report which had been induſtriouſly raiſed of the late Pope's being diſpatched by poiſon; by which it appeared, from incontrovertible evidence, that the whole was a falſehood, which owed its birth and circulation, as it is ſaid, to the malice of F. Martinelli, conſultor of the holy office, and ſome other minor conventual friars of the order of St Francis. [xxxvii. 602.]

Italy has afforded little other matter of attention. A new law has been paſſed in the grand duchy of *Tuſcany*, which regulates the age, terms, and manner of admiſſion, of perſons of either ſex into the monaſtic orders. This law lays ſuch wholeſome reſtrictions with reſpect to age, public examination, and many other particulars, obliges ſuch a length of time to be taken in the deliberation, and affords ſo unbounded a liberty to the agent in the determination, as will effectually cure the crying evils that aroſe from the unnatural violence and intereſted views of parents and relations, in compelling or circumventing thoſe under their care, to embrace a mode of life for which they were not ordained by nature. It will alſo in its conſequences, by degrees, wear away and reduce to nothing thoſe religious orders; a meaſure which now ſeems to be a primary object with almoſt all the Roman-Catholic ſovereigns in Europe.

The regency of *Milan* has given a late inſtance of that general diſpoſition to reduce the powers of the church, by aboliſhing for ever the tribunal of the inquiſition in that duchy, and appropriating its eſtates to the ſupport of an hoſpital for orphans. The republic of *Venice*, alſo, ſtill continues inflexible in its oppoſition to the claims of the court of Rome; and the King of *Naples* has ordered the biſhops, under heavy penalties, to fill up the vacancies of thoſe numerous benefices in his dominions, which had hitherto been conſidered as the property, and were in the ſole gift of the holy ſee.

FRANCE.

THE diſtreſſes of the people, owing to the ſcarcity and dearneſs of corn in France, threw that kingdom into an uncommon ſtate of diſturbance and commotion during a great part of the ſpring and ſummer. It ſeems probable, that other cauſes or motives than thoſe ariſing merely from the dearth, combined to aggravate thoſe diſorders. Parties have grown to a great height in that kingdom ſince the acceſſion of the preſent monarch, and are ſaid, not only to pervade the innermoſt receſſes of the palace, but to extend their influence to the provinces. The conduct of the rioters, in many inſtances, would indicate, that they had been influenced in thoſe caſes by other motives than want. The elevation of Monſ. Turgot to the chief direction of the finances had, as it is ſaid, given great offence to the powerful body of the farmers-general. With theſe, certain political combinations choſe to act on this occaſion. Turgot appears to be a perſon of the greateſt probity, and of very enlarged notions in matters of trade and political œconomy. He had done a great deal towards freeing the commerce of grain from many injudicious reſtrictions, both with regard to the internal traffic and to foreign exportation. This ſcarcity happening to coincide with the time of his regulations, was factiouſly attributed to them; and it is not improbable, that every proper precaution on the introduction of ſo new and critical a meaſure was not taken.

It is certain, that the diſtreſſes of the people

people were not only great, but in many caſes intolerable. Bread, in ſeveral places, could not be procured for money; and the beggars are ſaid to have refuſed the latter, whilſt they rent the air with cries for the former; ſo that gold was no longer a ſecurity againſt want. This diſtreſs was the more irremediable, as other nations were not abundantly ſupplied. The ſcarcity of corn in England not only cut off that reſource, but diverted a ſtill greater, by the immenſe quantities which it drew from the American colonies. Mankind will bear the extreme of want with wonderful patience, while they ſuppoſe it to ariſe from a natural and inevitable neceſſity; but if they imagine it to proceed from any fault in their rulers, or think that relief is attainable if proper means were purſued for the purpoſe, however broken down they may be by the harſhneſs of government, or the weight of laws, they will take fire at an inſtant, and no bounds can be preſcribed to their violence.

Such was the caſe in France. The idea of hoarding and monopoly, of a combination of the rich to grind the faces of the poor, and even to ſuck the laſt remains of their vital blood, was every where ſpread. The people aſſembled in different parts of the kingdom, and were guilty of the greateſt outrages. In the commiſſion of theſe violences they counteracted, as uſual, their avowed intention; and by deſtroying vaſt quantities of corn and flour, cut off the ſources of that relief which was their apparent object. They alſo further increaſed the diſtreſſes of the people, by deterring the proprietors of proviſions from venturing to bring them to market. In general, vengeance and deſtruction, not pillage, were their object. What appears very ſurpriſing, and ſeemed as if ſome, at leaſt, of theſe riots had been excited only to diſtreſs government, was, that, in ſeveral places, they left money to pay for the miſchiefs they had done.

The inſurrection at Dijon, the capital of Burgundy, was attended with more fatal conſequences than any other we have heard of. The inhabitants of that city, finding that the market was not ſupplied with corn ſufficient for their ſuſtenance, aſſembled in a conſiderable body on Eaſter Tueſday, and marched to a neighbouring farmer's, who had a large ſtock of corn on hand, which he refuſed to ſell under a very advanced price. His houſe they burnt, and deſtroyed every thing about it. After that exploit, they ſacked the houſe of the intendant, who thought himſelf very fortunate in eſcaping from their fury. The army being at length brought to quell the riot, ſeized upon a conſiderable number of the ringleaders; which ſo exaſperated the people, that a terrible fray enſued, in which, it is ſaid, that 500 perſons were killed or wounded.

In the mean time no means were left untried by the government, either to quell theſe diſturbances, or to alleviate their cauſe. Troops were ſtationed to protect the markets, and the roads and rivers by which they were ſupplied; great companies of the burghers were armed in different places for the ſame purpoſe. Some examples were made; and in a few inſtances, where extraordinary acts of outrage had been committed, ſummary juſtice was executed without any form of trial, by hanging the offenders on the ſpot. Theſe inſtances were however rare, and the puniſhments of any ſort not numerous. The King granted a conſiderable bounty on the importation of corn, and obtained a particular permiſſion from the ſtates of the Auſtrian Netherlands for the exportation of that commodity to France, contrary to a general prohibition which they had previouſly iſſued. The public diſorders, notwithſtanding all theſe meaſures, increaſed to ſo alarming a degree, as at length to excite apprehenſions of a general inſurrection, and to make it appear neceſſary to call in the troops from the frontiers to the centre of the kingdom; ſo that the Iſle of France, with ſome others of the interior provinces, were in a manner ſurrounded and interſected with lines of armed men. It was reported, that perſons of high rank, and of all conditions, both clergy and laity, had a ſhare in thoſe diſturbances, and ſome were ſent to the Baſtile upon ſuſpicion; but a critical enquiry into theſe matters was wiſely avoided. The King proclaimed a general pardon to all thoſe who would return peaceably to their reſpective homes, except the ringleaders. Though this proclamation appeared ambiguous, and the diſtinction dangerous; yet, as it was ſoon found that no further enquiry was made or intended, all apprehenſion ceaſed. Whatever was the nature or ſecret cauſe of theſe tumults, incendiary letters were ſtill written, and threats

threats uſed to burn the ſtanding corn. It at length pleaſed Providence, that a moſt plentiful harveſt removed the diſtreſſes of the people both in France and moſt other parts of Europe. The government acted with great prudence and moderation through the whole of this troubleſome affair.

The pageantry and ſplendor of the coronation at Rheims, June 11. perhaps, contributed to allay the ferment in the minds of the people. Notwithſtanding the ſchemes of œconomy that had been adopted, and Mr Turgot's abilities in finance, the court ſtill continued poor, and was under a neceſſity of anticipating the growing revenues, ſo that a free gift of 20 millions of livres, which was granted by the aſſembly of the clergy, was a very acceptable douceur. This aſſembly continued their ſittings longer than uſual, and it was much hoped that ſome favourable conceſſions in regard to the Proteſtants, particularly in reſpect to their marriages, would have been obtained from them. This ſubject indeed occupied much of their time; and as it is a matter which the court and nation in general ſeem of late to be much intereſted in, great expectations were accordingly formed. It, however, requires time, and even a familiarity of thinking on the ſubject, to wear away ancient prejudices; and the aſſembly, after much debate upon it, broke up without coming to any concluſion.

Germany.

The inſurrection and devaſtations of the peaſants in *Bohemia* and *Moravia*, have this year diſturbed the repoſe of the court of Vienna, and been productive of much miſchief in thoſe countries. It would ſeem as if there were certain ſeaſons, in which great bodies of mankind are particularly diſpoſed to oppoſe and reſent thoſe oppreſſions and injuries, which for a long ſeries of time they had endured with patience, or which at moſt produced no other effect than ſilent grudge or private murmur. The ſtate of the peaſants in that kingdom, has at all times been extremely ſervile and miſerable, and the oppreſſions of their lords nearly inſupportable. Yet, except when religious diſputes were the primary object, and civil liberty accidently included, we do not know of any attempts they had hitherto made to better their condition. On the contrary, they entirely overlooked the favourable opportunities which were preſented by ſome late wars, of profiting by the ſituation of public affairs.

The inſurrection this year did not appear to have been a ſudden and tumultuary proceeding, ariſing from any of thoſe immediate and glaring acts of violence or cruelty, which will ſometimes catch the paſſions of a whole people, and excite them even to madneſs. It ſeemed rather the reſult of a cool and ſerious reflection, long brooding over its injuries, and ſeeking revenge, in a certain degree, as well as redreſs; it alſo carried marks of concert and deſign, which ſeldom appear in that order of mankind, except they act under the influence of ſome great leaders. It is however to be obſerved, that the remains of the ancient Huſſites, as well as the modern Moravian brethren, were either principals or auxiliaries in this inſurrection; and that this appearance of order and union might have ariſen from that diſcipline and intelligence between the parts, neceſſarily eſtabliſhed in thoſe religious ſects, which are either trained under the immediate terrors of perſecution, or the doubt and apprehenſion of an uncertain toleration. It is reported, that they ſent deputies to intreat the protection of a great neighbouring prince; and that he totally refuſed to interfere in any manner; but recommended to them to apply to their natural ſovereigns for redreſs. If this report be true, which from later circumſtances appears doubtful, it would ſeem, as if theſe troubles were not entirely clear from religious motives.

The firſt notice of this inſurrection was about the ſeaſon of the ſeed-ſowing in ſpring, which rendered it feared that the miſeries of a famine, which had been ſo lately experienced in that country, would again be renewed. The peaſants aſſembled in great bodies, and in various parts of the kingdom at the ſame time, to the amount, it was ſaid, of 80,000 men, and committed great violences in many places, upon the caſtles, towns, and palaces of the great lords. They demanded the aboliſhment of the ſervitude to which by the corvees they were bound to their lords, and which preſſed ſo ſeverely upon the loweſt and moſt numerous order of the peaſants, that they were obliged to labour for them ſix days in the week, and allowed only the Sabbath for raiſing

their own proviſions. The Emperor had already taken conſiderable pains to remedy thoſe grievances; and it was ſome time ago ſaid, that he had iſſued an ordinance for that purpoſe; but however that was, the ſtrong oppoſition of the nobility rendered his general intentions fruitleſs. The impatience of the people was probably increaſed by this knowledge of the Emperor's diſpoſition; and the inſurgents, to colour their violences, pretended that a patent in their favour had been paſſed, and was concealed by the nobility.

The court of Vienna was leſs alarmed at this inſurrection than might have been expected, and ſhewed the greateſt moderation, lenity, and tenderneſs, in its conduct towards the inſurgents. Great bodies of troops were however detached from different quarters to Bohemia; and Count Collowrath, the great chancellor of that kingdom, was immediately diſpatched to enquire into the grievances of the peaſants. A high commiſſion was afterwards appointed for the ſame purpoſe, conſiſting of perſons of the firſt rank and character, and wholly unintereſted in the matter of diſpute, who were alſo to conſider of ſuch equitable regulations between the lords and their vaſſals, and to aſcertain the rights of the one, and the duties of the other, in ſo clear a manner, as would prevent any future diſturbances of the ſame nature.

In the beginning, tranquillity was immediately reſtored where-ever the troops appeared; the moſt notorious leaders fled to the mountains, and the bulk of the people were found peaceably in their habitations; the troops were employed rather to prevent miſchief than to inflict puniſhment; and though many examples were neceſſarily made, they bore no proportion to the number or enormity of the exceſſes. In the mean time, the outrages were continued in all other places, and immediately renewed upon the departure of the troops from any particular diſtrict. At length, the dread of puniſhment, ariſing from a continued repetition of offences, induced many thouſands of the peaſants totally to abandon their habitations, and to ſeek refuge in the vaſt mountains and woods that ſurround that kingdom. Theſe having now no meaſures to keep, grew more daring and cruel in their exceſſes, and at length arrived at ſuch a degree of boldneſs, as to venture to encounter detachments of the troops, and to ſtand and return their fire with incredible obſtinacy, and contempt of life, declaring, that it was a matter of indifference to them, whether they periſhed by fire, ſword, the hangman, or the miſeries which had driven them into their preſent ſtate of deſperation.

By theſe outrages, Bohemia preſented a melancholy ſpectacle of ruin and deſolation: for though the nobility, their bailiffs, ſervants, and officers, were the immediate ſufferers, all orders of mankind, by degrees, partook in the common calamity. At length, the grand commiſſion having made their report to the court of Vienna, a patent was founded upon it in the month of September, which at once reſtored peace and tranquillity to the kingdom, and ſecurity and happineſs to the peaſants. Though the corvees were not entirely aboliſhed, they were regulated in ſuch a manner as to render the burthen comparatively light to the vaſſals, and to afford them a reaſonable time for attending to domeſtic affairs, and the providing of a neceſſary proviſion for their families. Inſtead of the whole week, the loweſt order of peaſants are now to appropriate only three days to the ſervice of their lords; whilſt thoſe of the ſecond claſs, and who contribute a certain proportion to the exigencies of the ſtate, are ſubjected by the corvees to two days in the week; and the upper claſs, or real farmers, to one only: theſe two orders being alſo ſubject to a certain fixed ſervice of horſes or oxen.

A change was alſo made with reſpect to the raiſing of the public revenues, which was much in favour of the lower orders; their burthens being very conſiderably leſſened, to the amount it is ſaid of a million of florins annually, and new duties laid upon commodities which are chiefly conſumed by the rich, to ſupply the deficiency. Theſe regulations cauſed the greateſt joy among the lower orders of the people; but, as may be expected, were far from being pleaſing to the nobility. It is not impoſſible, conſidering the Emperor's character, and the endeavours he had before uſed in this buſineſs, that however he might regret the temporary miſchiefs with which it was attended, he was not ſorry that ſo fair an opportunity was preſented, for affording relief to the bulk of the people in that country.

Po-

POLAND.

No material change has taken place in the circumſtances of Poland, ſince the concluſion of the war between its great neighbours. The court of Peterſburg directs all the affairs of that country with as unbounded a ſway, as it does thoſe of its domeſtic provinces. It is true, that the nobility are ſtill as turbulent, and the factions as violent as ever in that country; but, fortunately for themſelves and the people, the power which overawes and controuls them, is of ſo ſuperior a ſtrength and magnitude, as effectually to reſtrain them from thoſe deſperate efforts, which have of late ſo repeatedly heaped ruin upon themſelves and the republic. Under the order preſerved by that ſtrong graſp, the country is beginning to recover from the effects of thoſe dreadful calamities which it has ſo long endured; and its extenſive plains once more to ſmile under the hand of cultivation.

The moderation and influence of the court of Peterſburg, has alſo produced a very happy effect upon the conduct of the other great partitioning powers; they both having deſiſted from ſeveral of their late claims, and relaxed greatly from that rigour and violence with which they had treated the republic. The unfortunate city of Dantzick has, however, found no alleviation to its ſufferings; and ſeems a victim abandoned to its fate. In the mean time, the Ruſſian troops are ſtill detained in Poland; and it is probable, that cauſes or motives will never be wanting, for their keeping a ſtrong force in that country.

A treaty of commerce, which was concluded between the Republic and the King of Pruſſia, March 18. as it is very advantageous to the latter, may probably be a means of prolonging harmony in that quarter. The unfortunate Dantzickers are ſufferers in this as in every thing elſe. While meaſures ſeem to be taking by the permanent council and government to encourage foreigners to repeople the deſolated provinces of that kingdom, which they will find a work of long time, and much expence, before any conſiderable benefit is received, they are continually haraſſing the Jews, (who form a great body of the people, and are the moſt induſtrious of its inhabitants), in ſuch a manner, by additional poll-taxes, and partial oppreſſive reſtrictions, as will probably oblige them totally to abandon the country. Such is the boaſted policy of ſtateſmen and nations; and ſo prevalent will the force of prejudice and error ever continue.

The Diſſidents have been at length remembered by the court of Ruſſia; and their privileges are now aſcertained and ſecured. They are particularly ſecured in the public profeſſion and exerciſe of their religion, and are allowed churches and ſchools even at Warſaw; but are reſtrained from the uſe of bells in the former. Some other regulations have taken place in their favour, particularly a right of appeal in all caſes of grievance to a tribunal in which a certain number of their own communion are to be admitted as aſſeſſors. They are, however, ſtill debarred from ſitting in the ſenate, and from occupying any offices in the departments of adminiſtration.

RUSSIA.

RUSSIA enjoys her power, influence, and glory, with a noble and ſplendid magnificence. All her affairs are conducted upon a great and extenſive ſyſtem, and all her acts are in a grand ſtyle. She ſits ſupreme between Europe and Aſia, and looks as if ſhe intended to dictate to both. We ſee in her a great but ſtill growing empire, which not having reached the ſummit of her deſtined power, feels life and vigour glowing in every part. The ſucceſſes and conſequences of the late war, have enlarged the ſpirit, extended the views, and dignified the minds of the people. In ſuch a ſtate, every thing is bold and maſculine. Even vice and crimes are great.

The impoſtor Pugatſcheff, with four of his accomplices, were publicly executed at Moſcow in the beginning of the year, (Jan. 21.). Pugatſcheff, with his principal aſſociate, named Perfilief, were beheaded; the three others were hanged; and eighteen more underwent the knout, and were ſent to Siberia. If the ſentence had been fulfilled, Pugatſcheff's hands and feet would have been firſt cut off, and expoſed to the people, before the final operation took place: but through ſome ſingular miſtake, the executioner cut off his head firſt; an error, for which it is ſuppoſed he ſuffered a ſeverer puniſhment than that which he inflicted. Pugatſcheff met his fate with the moſt undaunted reſolution; but was induced to acknowledge the juſtice of his ſen-

tence, the deception he had uſed, with his true name and condition; all of which agree in the material parts with the account which we have already given of him [xxxvii. 472.]. If a hiſtory of his life, which is ſaid to have been publiſhed by authority at Moſcow, can be relied on, he went through a ſeries of the moſt extraordinary adventures of any man living, even excluſive of the conſequences of the late impoſture; but this account is of ſo romantic a caſt, and recites matters of ſo exceedingly improbable a nature, that its authority ſeems very doubtful. It is, however, certain, that he was, even by birth, of the firſt rank and condition among the Coſſacks; and that, through his uncommon abilities, as well as the ſtrange viciſſitudes of his life, he had acquired a degree of knowledge and learning, which would not have been thought deſpicable in the moſt polite nations. It is ſaid, that an obſervation made ſeveral years ago by the celebrated Count Tottleben, of the ſtriking reſemblance which he bore to the late Emperor Peter III. took ſuch poſſeſſion of his mind, as to have been the operating cauſe of that calamity and ruin, in which he involved, with himſelf, a great part of the empire.

The heavy burden of the late war, has not prevented the Empreſs from already taking off moſt of the taxes which were laid for its ſupport; and, as if the ſtrength and riches of government in that country increaſed with its expence, ſhe has alſo aboliſhed a number of the ancient taxes, which were either conſidered as diſcouraging to manufactures and agriculture, or burdenſome and oppreſſive to particular provinces, or orders of the people. In the ſame ſpirit of beneficence and good policy, ſhe has lent great ſums of money, intereſt-free, and for a ſpecified term of years, to thoſe provinces which were ruined by the late rebellion; and to crown a general pardon, has ſtrictly forbidden any particulars of that unfortunate affair to be called up, or any reproaches uſed on its account, but condemns all matters relative to it to perpetual ſilence and oblivion.

She has alſo eſtabliſhed a number of other regulations, all tending to the ſecurity, advantage, and happineſs of her ſubjects; to aboliſh pernicious diſtinctions, deſtroy ruinous monopolies, reſtrain the cruelty of puniſhment, remove oppreſſive or impolitic reſtrictions and prohibitions, and to reſtore mankind to a more equitable degree of equality, in thoſe different ranks which they fill in ſociety. A pardon was alſo paſſed to thoſe criminals, who had already undergone a long degree of ſuffering for their crimes; and an ordinance iſſued to prevent any future criminal proſecution from being admitted, unleſs it was commenced within ten years after the date of the charge. Equal humanity was ſhewn with reſpect to impriſoned debtors; who, under certain limitations, and in certain circumſtances, were releaſed from confinement. All the heirs of the debtors to the crown were diſcharged from their obligations.

Nothing could be more flattering than the ſplendid preparations which were made at Moſcow by the Empreſs and Great Duke for the reception of Marſhal Romanzow, upon his return from that war which he had ſo glorioufly conducted and happily concluded. An arch was erected upon the occaſion, and every thing prepared for his making a triumphal entry in all the magnificence of the ancients. This honour, however, the General, either through wiſdom or magnanimity, declined. But that circumſtance did not leſſen the intended ſplendor and magnificence in other reſpects, nor the public honours paid to the General. July 21. rewards and honours were moſt liberally diſtributed to the great actors in the war, while their value was doubled by the manner in which they were conferred, and the public teſtimonial of their merit and ſervices thus given in the face of their country. Beſides a large eſtate, a great ſum of money, and magnificent preſents in plate and jewels, which were beſtowed upon Marſhal Romanzow, he was alſo preſented with a diploma, by which the addition of *Sadounaiſkoy* was made to his ſurname, a word which is ſaid to ſignify *The ultra Danubian*. The ſurname of *Chefme* (beſides great pecuniary rewards) was alſo granted to Count Alexis Orlow, alluding to the name of the port in the Leſſer Aſia in which he had deſtroyed the Turkiſh fleet.

The greateſt apparent harmony ſubſiſts between the late contending powers of Ruſſia and the Porte. Nor has this good neighbourhood been at all interrupted by ſome diſturbances in the Crimea, where the Tartars depoſed their Chan, Sabib Guerai, who had always aſſiſted

aſſiſted the Ruſſians, and was accordingly eſtabliſhed by them, and reſtored their warlike chief Dowlet Guerai, who had as conſtantly oppoſed their enterpriſes. It ſeems as if both powers, to avoid all foundation for diſputes, had reſolved for the preſent not to interfere in the cabals of theſe people with reſpect to the choice or ſucceſſion of their princes. In the mean time, Ruſſia is by no means indifferent to the vaſt ſources of wealth and power which are opened to her by the occupancy of the Black ſea. She has long ſtruggled with the inſurmountable obſtacles which nature threw in her way in the Baltick; and which would for ever prevent her eſtabliſhing an extenſive and advantageous commerce, or becoming a great maritime power on that ſide. A ſea ſhut up and unnavigable for near two thirds of the year, and incumbered with numberleſs impediments at all times, could never anſwer thoſe purpoſes in any degree ſuitable to the ambition and views of ſuch an empire as Ruſſia. She accordingly omits nothing that may contribute to the opening and eſtabliſhment of a great trade on the Black ſea, and for that purpoſe, the Empreſs has furniſhed ſome particular merchants with the uſe of ſhips free from any charge for freight, and has promiſed to indemnify them for any loſſes they may ſuſtain in the outſet.

Turky and Persia.

There has been a conſiderable appearance of vigour with reſpect to internal government, in the councils of the Porte, ſince the concluſion of peace. The ſtate of weakneſs and diſorder which ſo long prevailed in that empire, had enabled the governors of provinces to acquire ſuch wealth and power, and to fortify themſelves ſo ſtrongly in their governments, that they nearly forgot all dependence on the ſtate; and being under no apprehenſion of enquiry or controul, the people were ruined by their cruelty and oppreſſion. Thus, as their power increaſed in proportion to the extent of their enormities, ſo did the difficulty and danger of removing them from their commands. Upon the reſtoration of peace, the people took that opportunity, in almoſt all quarters, to ſend their complaints to the Porte, and to repreſent the intolerable tyranny under which they languiſhed. Theſe complaints were favourably attended to; and the remedy of that evil became the principal object of policy with that government during the preſent year. Some addreſs and ſtratagem were neceſſary for the accompliſhment of this purpoſe. The moſt powerful bathas were allured from their governments, under the appearance of thorough ſatisfaction in their conduct, and a pretence of promotion to greater; but as ſoon as they were thus circumvented out of their ſtrength and faſtneſſes, they were immediately ſtrangled, and the immenſe riches they had acquired by their oppreſſion forfeited to the ſtate. Thoſe of leſs power were treated with leſs ceremony; and different means leading to the ſame end were uſed with ſome others.

This year has proved fatal to the brave, and very old Chiek Daher. Mehemet Aboudaab, being tempted by the fame of his riches, ſet out at the head of a great army from Egypt, to gratify his avarice by his deſtruction. The force was ſo diſproportioned, that the Chiek could make no effectual reſiſtance in the field, and his garriſons were ſoon ſubdued. Gaza ſurrendered immediately: but Joppa ſtood a long ſiege; which ſo enraged Aboudaab, that he was guilty of the moſt horrible cruelties when he took the place. Theſe ſtruck ſo general a terror in the people, that Dacre and other places ſubmitted without reſiſtance. There was, however, ſtill an appearance, that the Chiek's ancient fortune would not have entirely abandoned him, by the ſudden death of Aboudaab, in the midſt of his ſucceſſes and cruelties. This appearance was fallacious. The captain-baſha arrived at that critical time, upon the coaſt of Syria, with a very conſiderable force, to which the Egyptians being added under the command of ſo active an officer, rendered the Chiek Daher's fate inevitable. His head was ſent to Conſtantinople, and his treaſures ſeized.

The Perſians have beſieged the city of Baſſora, during the greater part, if not the whole of the year. Though they have met with frequent repulſes and loſſes, they, notwithſtanding, continued the ſiege with ſuch obſtinacy, and the means of relief were ſo remote, that it does not ſeem improbable but the place may, by this time, be in their hands [451]. We ſhall obſerve to the honour of the preſent Grand Signior, that he ſhews the ſame favourable diſpoſition to the Chriſtians in his dominions, by which his brother was ſo much diſtinguiſhed.

Additions

Additions to The rights of Great Britain aſſerted, &c. (*inſerted entire*), *taken from the tenth edition of that celebrated pamphlet.—The page, column, and line, of this volume, in which each inſertion falls to be made, are here marked.*

[Additions and alterations made in later editions, are uſually not the leaſt valuable parts of a performance; as, we doubt not, perſons poſſeſſed of the earlier editions of this pamphlet will find.—We number the articles, 1. 2. 3. &c. progreſſively; and by marking the ſame numbers on the margin of the places at which they ſhould be reſpectively inſerted, the reading will be rendered eaſy.]

1. *p.* 28. *c.* 1. *l.* 13. *after* — taxes. — *add* — They decide upon what the legiſlature ought to receive for the ſupport of the ſtate: but the Commons, &c.

2. *p.* 28. *c.* 1. *l.* 21. *after* — individuals. — *inſert a paragraph, viz.*

If repreſentation is virtual in G. Britain, why then is it not virtual in the colonies? The truth is, the people of the four northern provinces, though they deny the fact in words, own it in their conduct. Near one third of the corporations in New England chuſe no repreſentatives, to ſave the expence of paying their deputies. They, however, own the right of their aſſemblies to impoſe taxes, and to make laws to bind the whole community, as the repreſentatives of the whole colony. The truth is, repreſentation has no more to do with the right of taxation, than with every other right exerciſed by the ſupreme and ſuperintending power. It is interwoven with the very eſſence of the legiſlative power; and is exerted, by that power, for the neceſſary ſupport of the ſtate.

Why it has been, &c.

3. *p.* 28 *c.* 2. *l.* 26. *after* — peace; — *add* — though all writs and indictments ran in their name, as in other counties in that of the King; though all offences were ſaid to be done againſt *their* peace, and not, as in other counties, *contra pacem Domini Regis*; though, in ſhort, they poſſeſſed, &c.

4. *p.* 30. *c.* 1. *l.* 35. *after* — treaty. — *add* — This country ought alſo to regret the ſtipulations which ſhe made, contrary, as it appears, to her own intereſt, for the advantage and ſecurity of America. To the ceſſion of Canada, and the extenſive tract of fertile land to the ſouthward of that province, G. Britain is indebted for thoſe annual emigrations which deprive her of many inhabitants. It is not the Iriſh and Scots only, that have found their way to the weſtward. The rage of emigration hath alſo extended itſelf to England; and within theſe two years, more than one veſſel has ſailed with emigrants from Yorkſhire. Should then the colonies continue to enjoy the protection of the mother-country, without contributing their quota toward her expences, why ſhould we be ſurpriſed, if a majority of farmers ſhould exchange lands for which they pay rent in G. Britain and Ireland, for freeholds on the banks of the Ohio? The ſoil and climate are unexceptionable; and this kingdom, at the expence of ſeventy millions, and the lives of many thouſands of her braveſt ſoldiers, has removed every apprehenſion of the French and Indians.

But, on the other hand, had Canada, &c.

5. *p.* 31. *c.* 1. *l.* 57. *after* — public ruin." — *add a paragraph, viz.*

G. Britain and her colonies derive their preſent diſpute, and its conſequent misfortunes, from the patriotiſm of the motley Junto who formed the appearance of an adminiſtration, in the end of 1765 and beginning of 1766. Virginia had the merit of taking the lead in the diſturbances in America, which ſucceeded the paſſing of the ſtamp-act. It was in the aſſembly of that province that the firſt reſolutions were voted againſt the authority of parliament, in the firſt ſeſſion after intelligence of the act was received. Though the meeting was very thin, the reſolutions paſſed only by a majority of TWO VOTES; and they would have been moſt certainly rejected, had it not been for the abſence of forty of the old members. When the aſſembly was adjourned for the ſeaſon, the people in general were diſſatisfied with the conduct of their repreſentatives. Every one expected, that, at the next meeting an attempt would be made to eraze the reſolutions from the journals. But intelligence arrived, in the mean time, that the Marquis of Rockingham, Lord Camden, General Conway, and the reſt of the "illuſtrious band" who had oppoſed the ſtamp-act in parliament, were, by a ſtrange revolution in politics, received into favour, and raiſed to office; and that Mr Pitt, then at variance with his wife's relations, was reſolved

refolved to oppofe their favourite meafure, the ftamp act. The Virginians, deriving great hopes from this change, adhered to their refolutions, and nothing further was done in the matter.

To enter minutely into the various motives of Mr Pitt's oratory, for the total and abfolute repeal of the ftamp-act [xxviii. 170.], would be to defert a great and public fubject, for the fake of tracing the private paffions and intereffed views of an ambitious, &c.

6. *p.* 67. *c.* 2. *l.* 49. *after* — colonies. — *add* — Happy it would have been for the bulk of the coloniſts, that this uncontroulable authority had ſtill extended itſelf with vigour over America, on the article of paper-money. At Rhode-iſland, in the year 1763, a dollar was worth eight pounds paper-currency; yet when the emiſſion took place, it was only worth 6 s. 8 d. The conſequence was, that guardians, and others who had got poſſeſſion of effects, belonging to infants and orphans, being by law obliged to account for the nominal value only, appropriated to themſelves the greateſt part of the fortunes of their wards, in conſequence of the fall of the value of the paper-currency. The caſe will certainly be the ſame with regard to the paper-currency of the general congreſs, notwithſtanding its boaſted credit. It muſt fall in its value, whatever may be the iſſue of the preſent rebellion. The exertion which they have made for emancipating the colonies from the juſt ſupremacy of the mother-country, has opened a gate for the entrance of public ruin; for while a paper-currency prevails, America muſt ever be drained of ſilver and gold.

The houſe of Commons were no ſtrangers to the ruineus conſequences of an American paper-currency, when they entered, in the year 1740, into a conſideration, &c.

7. *p.* 68. *c.* 2. *l.* 39. *after* — America. — *add* — The congreſs, whilſt they affect to diſavow the ſupremacy of the Britiſh legiſlature, acknowledge that ſupremacy, perhaps through inadvertence, in its utmoſt latitude. They own themſelves the ſubjects of the King of G. Britain; yet it was the Britiſh legiſlature that placed his Majeſty and his family on the throne. Were the colonies repreſented in the parliament which limited the ſucceſſion of the crown to the houſe of Hanover, any more than they were in that which laid a paltry duty on tea in the ports of America? His Majeſty owes his throne to the laws of England; and, as King, he can have no ſubject that is not bound by that law.

Taxation has been, &c.

8. *p.* 69. *c.* 1. *l.* 33. *after* — to this day; — *add* — yet the congreſs, in their letter to the people, and alſo in their declaration [xxxvii. 424.], expreſsly ſay, "that, till the preſent reign, they have ever exerciſed an excluſive right over their own property." They were no ſtrangers to the falſehood of this impudent aſſertion. But the duty of a penny per pound on tobacco, by the 25th of Charles II. was preſented by K. William to the college of William and Mary in Virginia. The Virginians, they knew, would by no means reliſh the repeal of that act; as the royal grant to the college comprehends the tobacco exported from Maryland, as well as that ſhipped from Virginia.

In the 9th of Q. Anne, &c.

9. *p.* 69. *c.* 2. *l.* 27. *after* — "public ruin." — *add* — It is evident, upon the whole, that the right of the Britiſh legiſlature to bind the colonies in all caſes whatever, is founded on long and immemorial uſage, and uniform and uninterrupted practice. Upon the ſame principles ſtand the legal prerogatives of the crown, the privileges of both houſes of parliament, and the cleareſt and moſt inconteſtable rights of the three branches of the legiſlature united.

The American congreſs, &c.

10. *p.* 121. *c.* 1. *l.* 15. *after* — by jury." — *add* — This is mere declamation, addreſſed to the prejudices of the ignorant. In the courts of admiralty erected in the colonies, all ſuits between the King and the ſubject, whether breaches of the act of navigation or queſtions of revenue, have always been determined without trial by jury. The reaſon was, that no court of exchequer was ever eſtabliſhed in America. Even in England, for breaches of the laws of exciſe, land-tax, and other queſtions of revenue, there are no trials by jury. The juriſdiction of the courts of admiralty in America has been extended only to the caſes juſt mentioned. In all criminal queſtions, commonly called *the pleas of the crown*, in all civil ſuits between ſubject and ſubject, the inhabitants of America have uniformly enjoyed the ſame mode of trial, and in ſimilar courts of common

common law and equity, with the inhabitants of G. Britain.

The Congreſs ſurely forget, &c.

11. *p.* 121. *c.* 1. *l.* 36. *for* — And as to trial, &c. *read* — And had the Americans been indulged, contrary to the courſe of the admiralty in England, with the privilege of trial by jury, the parties would be judges.

12. *p.* 121. *c.* 2. *l.* 3. *for* — is ridiculous, &c. *read* — is at once ridiculous and unjuſt. It is unjuſt, as it was the ſeditious conduct of the inhabitants that forced the legiſlature into a meaſure of coercion; and ridiculous, as they themſelves had it in their power to remove the grievance. The deſtruction, &c.

13. *p.* 121. *c.* 2. *l.* 11. *after* — impoſſible. — *read* — The number and influence of the offenders ſcreened them effectually from juſtice. The leading and domineering power was in actual rebellion. They had reſiſted an act of parliament by an armed force. It was a public, &c.

14. *p.* 121. *c.* 2. *l.* 15. *after* — general. — *add* — The act for ſhutting the port was therefore a meaſure of coercion againſt avowed rebels. The fatal error of government was, that they were not conſidered throughout as ſuch; and adminiſtration, inſtead of deſerving cenſure for ſeverity, were highly reprehenſible for their ill-timed lenity; as, after the bill was paſſed, they ſlept under it, as a peace-regulation.

In purſuance, &c.

15. *p.* 121. *c.* 2. *l.* 31. *after* — common juſtice. — *add a paragraph, viz.*

But why ſhould we expect common juſtice towards others, among a people who (with regard to the tea-act) have been manifeſtly unjuſt to themſelves? It is of the duty of tea the Americans principally complain; yet they ſubmitted to a duty of 7*l.* per ton, laid on wines, the ſeſſion which immediately preceded the paſſing of the tea-act. The duty on tea was alſo ſubmitted to in all the provinces where that commodity had not been uſually introduced by ſmuggling. Boſton itſelf, and even Mr John Hancock, (now preſident of the congreſs, but formerly a a moſt notorious ſmuggler), originally made no objection to the act. It was when the Eaſt-India company, by adopting the plan of ſending tea to America in their own name, gave the finiſhing blow to ſmuggling, that the inhabitants of Maſſachuſet's-bay determined to oppoſe the duty. Prior to the act for laying the three-pence duty on tea, payable in the colonies, the Americans actually paid a ſhilling, together with the profit of the merchant. Formerly all tea exported to the plantations went encumbered with a ſhilling paid by the Eaſt-India company. In other words, the duty was not drawn back on exportation. So that, by the act, the conſumer is a gainer of a ſhilling in every pound of tea, if to the nine-pence duty we ſhould add commiſſion, inſurance, freight, and profit. Smugglers found themſelves incapable of carrying on their contraband commerce; and they inflamed an ignorant rabble, to ſerve their own intereſt, or to gratify their own revenge.

With equal effrontery, &c.

16. *p.* 121. *c.* 2. *l.* 39. *after* — legiſlature. — *add* — The congreſs deſignedly made no diſtinction between the power of the King, and the power of the legiſlature. The King cannot revoke any charter he grants, without the concurrence of the two other branches of the legiſlature. But it has already appeared, that the King can grant no charter, which the three branches of the legiſlature united cannot alter and annul. They might as well, &c.

17. *p.* 122. *c.* 1. *l.* 11. *make a reference-mark at* world * *? and add a foot-note, viz.*

* In ſome of the colonies, Rhode-Iſland in particular, every officer, from the governor down to the conſtable, is annually choſen. Such is the confuſion, and ſo violent are the animoſities, which attend this general election, that every ſenſible man in the province wiſhed the charter revoked, and a form of government eſtabliſhed on the ſame footing with the ſouthern colonies. The extenſion of the right of electing magiſtrates to the people at large, was the principal cauſe of the fall of freedom in old Rome. The prejudices and fears of the rabble were the ſteps by which ambitious men aſcended to a power, which they converted into tyranny over their fooliſh conſtituents. The vanity gratified by the right of election, was ſoon balanced by indignity and contempt; for the grandſons of the voters who placed Marius, Cinna, and Cæſar, at the head of the ſtate, were employed by Caligula in raiſing his horſe to the conſulſhip.

18. *p.* 122. *c.* 2. *l.* 28. *after* — arbitrary power. — *add a paragraph, viz.*

The congreſs, with a pliance ſuitable to their deſign, vary their language, according

cording to the ſuppoſed prejudices of thoſe whom they wiſh to deceive. When they ſpeak to the oppoſition in parliament, and the reſtleſs ſpirits without doors in G. Britain, they declaim, with vehemence, againſt the Quebec bill, as the means of eſtabliſhing deſpotiſm in government and errors in religion [xxxvi. 694.]. When they write to the Canadians, they aſſure them, "that religious and ſocial principles are not incompatible; that the fate of the Proteſtant and Catholic colonies are ſtrongly linked together; that they ſincerely wiſh to unite with them in defence of common liberty" [xxxvi. 701.]. Had the glaring inconſiſtencies in theſe oppoſite profeſſions of the congreſs remained a ſecret from the public in general, we might be induced to place them to the great account of American deceptions. But as they were printed by the very perſons by whom they were made, we can ſcarcely aſcribe this part of the conduct of the congreſs to a better motive than political lunacy.

The congreſs enumerate, &c.

19. *p.* 123. *c.* 1. *l.* 31. *after* — puniſhment? —— *add three paragraphs, viz.*

The Americans owe this grievance, if in fact it deſerves the name, to that "illuſtrious band," whoſe former political ſins have, it ſeems, been obliterated by their preſent oppoſition. The declaratory act, the tea-bill, and internal taxation, were, confeſſedly, the work of the "illuſtrious band." One of their leaders (Lord Camden) was the author of the reſolutions of which the congreſs ſo loudly complain. He carried them, as Chancellor, to the King; and it was at his Lordſhip's inſtigation they were propoſed in parliament, and ſent up in an addreſs from both houſes to his Majeſty. If, therefore, "the liberties of America (to borrow an expreſſion from one of her writers) have received a mortal ſtab by theſe reſolutions," the dagger which inflicted the wound was in the hands of a friend. This friend, however, has not always been the friend of American independence and reſiſtance. Mr Pratt, when attorney-general, advanced a doctrine very different from that adopted by Lord Camden when diveſted of the great ſeal. Inſtead of erecting each petty aſſembly in the colonies into a branch of an independent legiſlature, he declared under his hand, "That care ſhould be taken not to admit the incroachments of the provincial aſſemblies on the upper houſes, when they ſupport ſuch incroachments by arguments drawn from the exerciſe of the like rights in the Britiſh Houſe of Commons. The conſtitutions of the two aſſemblies differ fundamentally in many reſpects. Our Houſe of Commons ſtands upon its own laws, the *lex parliamentaria*. But the aſſemblies in the colonies are regulated by their reſpective charters, uſages, and the common law of England; and will never be allowed to aſſume thoſe privileges which the Houſe of Commons are intitled to juſtly here, upon principles which neither can nor muſt be applied to the aſſemblies of the colonies" *.

Equally ſtrong in itſelf, and adverſe to the claims of the colonies, was the opinion of the ſame man, with regard to the trade of G. Britain with America. He was ſatisfied, he ſaid, that "the mother-country would never endure any impoſt laid by the American aſſemblies on her trade. The provinces (continues Mr Pratt) might, by the ſame rule, prohibit the importation, as well as they might tax the merchandiſe imported; and it ſeems to be a very unwarrantable attempt, to make the Engliſh importer of goods carried to America in the way of trade, pay a tax for the defence of any of the provinces, for no other conſideration but the liberty of trading there, to which G. Britain has an original right, which cannot be invaded, or even regulated, by any thing the colonies can do."

But to return to the act of Henry VIII. The paſſions of the congreſs have effaced, in this inſtance, as well as in many others, that ſhew of reaſon which they wiſh to hold forth to the world. They complain of the exertion of old acts of the legiſlature; yet it is undeniably certain, that, in their courts of law, it has been a ſtanding rule, that all acts of parliament of a general nature, prior to the reſpective eſtabliſhment of the different colonies, are binding upon the inhabitants. It was alſo a ſtanding rule, that all ſubſequent acts which expreſsly comprehended any of the colonies by name, ſhould bind ſuch colony, though contrary to acts of aſſembly. The Americans, in general, before the commencement of the preſent troubles, would have reprobated the idea of their not being entitled to the benefit of all

* MS. opinion of Attorney-General Pratt, (now Lord Camden), extracted from the archives of Maryland.

general acts of parliament, for the good of the people. Why, therefore, ſhould they claim an exemption from a general act, which enforces the obedience of the people to the ſovereign power? Obedience and protection are reciprocal duties. If they deny obedience to the acts of the Britiſh legiſlature, what claim have they to rights under the Britiſh government?

From condemning, &c.

20. *p.* 125. *c.* 1. *l.* 8. *after*—contend? —*add a paragraph, viz.*

But a total emancipation has been all along the object of thoſe demagogues, who wiſh to erect their own uſurped authority on the ruins of all legal government. The reſolutions of the 20th of February had, at firſt, a fair hearing in America; they were accidentally carried over, and printed, at leaſt two weeks before the USUAL PRIVATE LETTERS, PATRIOTIC SPEECHES in parliament, and SECRET INSTRUCTIONS of the "illuſtrious band" arrived. During this interval, the general cry was, that every thing they had contended for was granted. The leaders were confounded; but when the private letters, ſecret inſtructions, and patriotic ſpeeches, came, the face of affairs was inſtantly changed. The reſolutions were reprinted with an inflammatory preface. The ſpirit of the demagogues returned. They inculcated, with vehemence, that the reſolutions were inſidious; that taxation was not relinquiſhed by parliament; and that the juſt authority of the aſſemblies was annihilated, as they had no longer the power either of judging of the propriety of the ſervice, or of determining the quantum of the ſupply.

The Americans, &c.

21. *p.* 178. *c.* 2. *l.* 7. *read*—to give it implicit faith. The demon of Diſcord had appeared in ſome of the provinces before he was conjured up by the congreſs throughout the continent. Gov. Tryon had been obliged to raiſe 1200 men to quell an inſurrection in North Carolina; Virginia and Pennſylvania were upon the point of quarrelling about their boundaries. At this very moment the congreſs, who boaſt of American unanimity, are forced to interpoſe their authority to prevent a rupture between Connecticut and Pennſylvania on the ſame ſubject.

The ſhew of unanimity which now ſubſiſts in America, appears from undoubted information to be the reſult of fear, more than any love to the deſperate cauſe of the rebels. Force, fraud, and violence, over the minds, perſons, and properties of his Majeſty's ſubjects, have been found neceſſary for carrying on every meaſure of the congreſs.

Men of property, &c.

22. *p.* 178. *c.* 2. *l.* 25. *make a reference-mark at* paper-currency *, *and add a foot-note, viz.*

* Theſe paper-reſources have been very liberally exerted by the coloniſts, in the courſe of the year 1775. By the moſt authentic accounts, the congreſs and the provincial conventions have raiſed the ſums annexed to each, reſpectively, in the following ſtate, by iſſuing paper-bills, to ſupport their rebellion againſt the legal authority of Great Britain.

	Currency.		Sterling.
The continental congreſs iſſued in 1775, 3,000,000 paper-dollars, at 4s. 6d. each		or	£. 675,000
They have ſince iſſued 4,000,000		or	900,000
Georgia - - -		-	10,000
South Carolina,	£. 1,000,000	or	150,000
North Carolina	50,000	or	30,000
Virginia - -	350,000	or	280,000
Maryland -	100,000	or	60,000
Pennſylvania, at two emiſſions	115,000	or	69,000
Rhode-Iſland -	100,000	or	75,000
			£. 2,249,000

I have not been able to obtain any authentic intelligence concerning the ſums raiſed in the other colonies. I may venture, however, to affirm, that the rebellious provinces have raiſed, in the courſe of this year, a ſum equal to the amount of their whole taxes (provincial as well as parliamentary) in ten years.

23. *p.* 181. *c.* 2. *l.* 24. *after*—freedom." —*add two paragraphs, viz.*

The independence which they now openly aſſert, has been all along the object of the leaders of the infatuated coloniſts. Ambitious demagogues have led forward an ignorant populace, ſtep by ſtep, till their retreat from ruin is difficult, if not impoſſible. To cover their own deſigns, the congreſs affected, even ſo late as the month of July laſt, to offer conditions, (too humiliating indeed to be accepted), as grounds for a reconciliation with the mother-country. They voted a petition to the King, which was preſented to his Majeſty on the 1ſt of September [xxxvii. 432.]. But, inadmiſſible as the terms of the

the petition were, the congreſs were unwilling to truſt the fate of their favourite independence to the inſolence of their own demands. When they pretended to ſolicit the throne for peace, they endeavoured to make the breach between the mother-country and America irreparable, by puſhing with vigour their rebellious war.

The petition was the laſt act of the congreſs, before their adjournment on the 2d of Auguſt. After this adjournment, and before they could poſſibly hear of the reception of their petition, St John's was beſieged; an attempt was made on Montreal; a party under Arnold invaded Canada, by the way of Kennebec; and the fort of Bermuda was robbed of its gunpowder on the 14th of Auguſt. On the 13th of the ſame month, the boat of the Aſia man of war was burnt at New York; a veſſel bringing proviſions to that ſhip ſhared the ſame fate on the 5th of September. Two ſhips were ſeized to the ſouthward, in the month of Auguſt, by veſſels fitted out in South Carolina. In the firſt week of October, Mr Waſhington iſſued commiſſions to maſters of armed veſſels to cruiſe on the ſhips of G. Britain, as againſt a foreign enemy. In the month of November, before any bill of the ſame kind was brought into the Britiſh parliament, the provincial conventions of the northern colonies paſſed pretended acts, forbidding, under pain of death, every correſpondence with the people of G. Britain; and appointing judges in the various ports, for the condemnation of Britiſh captures.

Such is the conduct, &c.

The genuine ſpeech of Earl Temple, on the grand queſtion reſpecting G. Britain and America. [237.]

My Lords,

I Have heard, with the greateſt ſenſibility, the very hononourable teſtimony which has been given by the Noble Earl [Talbot] who ſpoke laſt to the memory of one [Mr Grenville] ſo deſervedly dear to me; and I think the Houſe is much obliged to his Lordſhip for the information he has given, and the new lights which he has thrown upon the queſtion of ſovereignty over America, in which the right of taxation is ſpecially included. Your Lordſhips have been ſo repeatedly perſecuted by debates on American queſtions, and I have ſo frequently given my opinion upon theſe queſtions, that I could moſt willingly have ſpared you this trouble; but, with a heart feeling as warmly as mine does for the honour and intereſt of my country, I cannot bear the thought of being ſo much as ſuſpected to be an indolent or indifferent ſpectator of her unexampled diſtreſs; nor can I ſuffer my opinions, in ſo arduous and delicate a ſituation, to be collected from the ſentiments expreſſed by any man, or ſet of men whatſoever. I deſire to ſtand or fall in your Lordſhips opinion, and that of my country, by thoſe I deliver myſelf.

I am ſtill clear, my Lords, as to the right this country has to exerciſe its ſovereignty over America by taxation. I had no hand in paſſing the ſtamp-act, in the declaratory bill, in the bill laying duties upon the tea and other commodities, in the partial repeal of that act, nor yet in the infanity of ſending the tea to America without repealing the duty. From theſe and other cauſes, together with the imbecility of adminiſtration, this country is reduced into a ſituation ſo deplorable, that the wiſeſt and honeſteſt man in the kingdom can propoſe nothing that promiſes a happy and honourable iſſue. I feel that I ſpeak in fetters, I therefore will not preſs arguments on either ſide to their full extent. The next eaſterly wind will carry to America what ſhall fall from any and from every Lord in the Houſe. I do not wiſh that the nakedneſs of my country and its weakneſs ſhould ſtand confirmed by the authority and ſanction of teſtimonies given here. It is a time to act, and not to talk. Much is to be done, and little ſaid. The dye of war is caſt, the ſword is drawn, and ſcabbard thrown away. With great reſpect to your Lordſhips, wiſe as you are, and, no doubt, the great hereditary council of the King and kingdom, yet allow me to ſay, you are not enabled to decide upon matters of ſuch tranſcendent importance and difficulty, without having the fulleſt materials before you, which you moſt certainly have not. This is a queſtion for the miniſters to decide, who muſt be ſuppoſed to have the means of the moſt ample information. The execution will likewiſe lie with them. They have decided, and it is to be wiſhed that they have at laſt ſome well-conſidered plan, for not only taking into pay all the troops that can at any rate be got, but

alſo how they can be ſupported, ſupplied, and enabled to act with effect; in ſhort, a plan, conſiſting of a great variety of efficient parts. If I had the honour of being in the King's council, which, thank God, I have not, I ſhould expect the fulleſt information before I could decide; but decide I would, and abide by the deciſion. Retired, however, as I now am, and uninformed, I have not preſumption enough to give an opinion, nor do I hold myſelf ſpecially called upon to do it. My country is, indeed, reduced to a deplorable ſituation. We are driven between Sylla and Charybdis, and it will be tranſcendently difficult to ſteer the veſſel of the ſtate into a ſafe port. I muſt be allowed freely to confeſs, that I have not a good opinion of the King's ſervants.

Paſt experience will not juſtify confidence: I cannot, therefore, anſwer to myſelf, or to my country, the truſting ſuch men with the expenditure of ten millions; and laying the foundation of laviſhing many more, our laſt ſtake; thereby accelerating that bankruptcy, which, ſooner or later, I fear, by adopting either meaſure, is become inevitable. Nor am I, on the other hand, ſo friendly to them, as, by declaring our utter inability to reduce America, to furniſh them with a golden bridge for concluding an ignominious peace, on any the moſt ruinous and diſgraceful terms. I cannot conſent to throw this once great and glorious country at the feet of America, and thereby humbly implore ſuch peace as ſhe in her generoſity and magnanimity ſhall condeſcend to grant us. I am not yet made to the idea of hanging out a white flag of ſurrender. To thoſe who lament the preſent moſt melancholy ſtate of the colonies, once ſo proſperous and flouriſhing, beyond the example of any others known in the annals of time, I cannot help obſerving, that I rejoice in the teſtimony, becauſe it does honour to the government of England, under whoſe care and influence they had proſpered ſo wonderfully. I do verily believe, that till the late troubles, they had infinitely leſs to complain of than the mother-country herſelf; and that, ſeparated as they are by the vaſt Atlantic, it was not in the nature of things, that there muſt not be much to complain of, though not ſufficient to juſtify their ingratitude to the parent-ſtate.

I cannot blame a determination to make peace ſword-in-hand; the ſooner it can be had, upon reaſonable, ſafe, and honourable terms, the better for both countries. I never did declare, whether I thought it was conſiſtent with ſound policy to impoſe any tax upon America, and it will hardly be expected that I ſhould decide it now. I have heard it called an unjuſt war; I know not who in the Houſe have a right to call it ſo: not thoſe who voted for the declaratory act; thoſe only who denied our right of taxation;—and how very few were they? Negotiations of ſuch importance and delicacy cannot be tranſacted with too much ſecreſy. I cannot, I own, approve of recalling your troops, and publiſhing the terms on which you will yield, till there is reaſon to be pretty well aſſured, they or ſomething near them will be accepted. Infinite ſagacity and diſcretion are neceſſary to the attainment of what all alike, I am perſuaded, muſt eagerly wiſh! When the happy and favourable moment for conciliation ſhall arrive, I hope the miniſters will ſeize it, and I ſincerely wiſh them ſucceſs; at leaſt, at ſuch a criſis, I will not hang upon the wheels of government, and thereby render what is already but too difficult, the more impracticable.

(His Lordſhip did not vote.)

AMERICA. [648.]

Gazette Extr. of Dec. 30. *concluded.* [647.]

"*Admiralty-office, December* 30. 1776. Capt. Maſon, of his Majeſty's ſloop the Tamar, arrived yeſterday at Dartmouth, and came to town this morning, with diſpatches from Lord Viſc. Howe, of which the following is a copy.

"*Eagle, off New York, Nov.* 23. 1776.

SIR,

THE General thinking fit to move with a large part of the army to the right of the rebel-forces, who were preparing to eſtabliſh themſelves for the winter on the heights above King's-bridge, as well as on the north part of York iſland, the embarkation of the troops in the flat boats and ſmall veſſels provided, was made from Kep's bay, in the night of the 11th of laſt month, under the direction of Com. Hotham, with the captains of the ſhips from which the boats were manned, as in the former inſtances; and the troops were

were landed in the morning on the peninſula of Frog's Neck, in the ſound, about ten miles eaſtward from New York, without oppoſition.

A thick fog prevailing when the boats entered the dangerous paſſage through Hell-gate, every ill conſequence was to be apprehended; but it fortunately happened, that no other injury was ſuſtained beſides the overſetting of an artillery-boat, by which accident two field-pieces and three men were loſt.

It had been ſome time before reſolved, in order to prevent the enemy from receiving ſupplies by the North river, to ſend a detachment of ſhips above their works at Jeffery's Hook on York iſland and the oppoſite ſhore of Jerſey, between which they had been lately making freſh attempts to block the channel. Capt. Parker in the Phœnix was again choſen for this ſervice, with the Roebuck and Tartar. The wind did not permit the ſhips to paſs the enemy's works until the 9th. By the accounts I have a few days ſince received from Capt. Parker, I find the ſhips had ſuffered much in their maſts and rigging: the loſs of men, as in the incloſed return, was leſs conſiderable. Of four of the enemy's gallies chaſed from their ſtations behind the lines of ſunken frames and veſſels placed to obſtruct the paſſage of the river, two were taken; one mounting a thirty-two pounder with ſwivels, the other two nine-pounders and two four-pounders. The two remaining gallies, with ſome ſmall veſſels, being favoured by the tide and weather, eſcaped the ſhips in ſhoal water, where they had ſufficient protection from the ſhore, which was in the enemy's poſſeſſion.

The General judging it neceſſary to make a ſecond movement with the troops he conducted further to the eaſtward of Frog's Neck, the light infantry, grenadiers, and other corps of the firſt imbarkation, were again taken into the flat-bottomed boats, and landed the 18th on Pell's Neck, ſeparated from Frog's Neck by Hutchinſon's river. The reſt of the army, which had only that narrow ſtream to paſs, were conveyed over with the artillery and baggage a few hours after. And the ſecond diviſion of the Heſſians, that came under convoy of the Diamond the 19th, were carried up in the flat boats, and landed the 23d on Myer's Neck, the poſt of communication with the fleet laſt eſtabliſhed nearer to New Rochelle.

This poſition of the army requiring further proviſion to be made for keeping the intercourſe open by water with York iſland, the Roſe and Senegal were added to the frigates and ſmall-armed veſſels before ſtationed in the ſound for that purpoſe.

It is incumbent on me to repreſent to their Lordſhips on this occaſion, and I cannot too pointedly expreſs, the unabating perſeverance and alacrity with which the ſeveral claſſes of officers and ſeamen of the ſhips of war and tranſports have ſupported a long attendance and unuſual degree of fatigue conſequent of theſe different movements of the army. Capt. Phipps, and the detachment of ſeamen under his command, who were further appointed to aſſiſt in the ſervice of the artillery upon an emergency, have acquired much credit by their ſpirited conduct on that duty.

The enemy, retreating on every occaſion as the army advanced, were forced from the White Plains (where they ſeemed prepared to make ſome ſtand) into the North-Caſtle diſtrict; and have finally retired, with the greateſt part of their forces, behind the Cooton river, whereby the communication was open from York iſland with the continent by King's-bridge.

On the 16th inſtant the General directed an attack to be made on their lines adjacent to Fort Waſhington, a regular work conſtructed upon the high grounds above Jeffery's Hook. It was appointed to be carried on from the ſide of New York, off King's bridge, and two ſeparate imbarkations from the continent, acroſs the Eaſt river. Thirty flat boats were ordered up to King's-bridge by the North river the night of the 14th, under the direction of Capt. Wilkinſon, (who has diſtinguiſhed himſelf very much in the different parts of this and the ſubſequent operation), aſſiſted by Capt. Molloy. The batteaux, moſtly manned from tranſports, were commanded by Lieut. Botham of the Brune, Lieut. Loggie of the Mercury, and the agent Lieut. Henry.

The troops imbarked in the boats, had a conſiderable fire to ſuſtain from the enemy, in their paſſage acroſs the Eaſt river, and at their landing; but having ſurmounted every obſtacle under the farther diſadvantage of a very ſteep aſcent, to gain the flank of the enemy's lines, and the other attacks ſucceeding at the

ſame

ſame time, the fort was completely inveſted in the evening. The rebels, in number about 2700, were thereupon induced to ſurrender priſoners of war; and ſeveral pieces of cannon, with a conſiderable proportion of military ſtores, were taken in the fort and outworks.

Capt. Wilkinſon's preſence being deemed moſt material with the flat boats, the Pearl was left under the direction of the Firſt Lieutenant Scot, to be placed for covering the march of the Heſſian troops, and to flank the enemy's lines on the ſide of the North river; in which ſervice his behaviour was much approved. The ſame commendation is due to the officers and ſeamen in the boats: only one of the laſt was killed, and five wounded; the loſs of men, at the landing, having happened chiefly amongſt the troops.

Twenty more flat boats, which were ſent up the North river, under Capt. Phipps, paſſed the enemy's forts undiſcovered in the night of the 18th; and a detachment from the army, commanded by Lord Cornwallis, being landed on the Jerſey ſhore the 20th in the morning, above the enemy's redoubts, oppoſite to Jeffery's Hook, and unperceived by the rebels for ſome time, they ſoon became poſſeſſed of the redoubts without loſs. Some few of the enemy were killed, and about ſeventy taken, with many pieces of artillery, and a large quantity of ammunition and ſtores.

The ſudden effect of theſe two unexpected attacks ſeems to have made great impreſſion upon them.

In my report to their Lordſhips upon theſe ſeveral tranſactions, particular notice is due to the ability teſtified in the direction and conduct of many difficult and very fatiguing ſervices which Capt. Ferguſon, of the Brune, was charged with, preparatory to and in the progreſs of the various movements of the army, from the time of the firſt deſcent on York iſland to this period. Lieut. Botham, of the ſame ſhip, and the Agents Lieut[s] Knowles and Henry (the laſt more eſpecially) having had a conſiderable ſhare in the arrangement as well as execution of ſuch ſervices, are likewiſe intitled to a particular diſtinction on this occaſion; and the unwearied ſpirit of the ſeamen, from the tranſports as well as ſhips of war, in dragging the artillery up the difficult heights, for ſuſtaining the infantry on their landings, can never be exceeded.

I have thought it neceſſary, for the ſpeedy conveyance of the General's diſpatches on the preſent occaſion, to appoint the Tamar for that purpoſe, having had the ſloop cleaned and refitted here for her paſſage to Europe, in the beſt manner that the materials to be provided in our preſent circumſtances would permit. Capt. Maſon is directed to the port he can firſt moſt conveniently gain in England; and to wait to receive their Lordſhips commands for his further proceedings.

Return of the killed and wounded on board his Majeſty's ſhips paſſing the batteries the 9th of October, 1776.

Phœnix. 1 midſhipman, 2 ſeamen, 1 ſervant, *killed*; 1 boatſwain, 1 carpenter, 8 ſeamen, 1 ſervant, 1 Negro man, 1 private marine, *wounded.*

Roebuck. 1 lieutenant, 1 midſhipman, 2 ſeamen, *killed;* 1 midſhipman, 2 ſeamen, 1 corporal of marines, *wounded.*

Tartar. 1 midſhipman *killed*; 1 lieutenant of marines *wounded.*

Total 9 *killed;* 18 *wounded.*

H. Parker.

By another letter received from Lord Howe, dated the 27th of laſt month, it appears, that on the 20th the Solebay had returned with the 6th regiment from St Vincent's, and the Mermaid arrived the 22d with the convoy of victuallers, and other tranſports, which Capt. Hawkes had in charge to conduct to New York, the Aurora and Newmarket victuallers excepted, having parted from them on the 13th in a hard gale of wind. His Lordſhip adds, that ſeveral captures had been made by his Majeſty's frigates cruiſing from Boſton eaſtward; but that he had not received the particulars, but daily expected them.

"*Admiralty-office, December* 30. 1776. By letters received from Vice-Adm. Young, commander in chief of his Majeſty's ſhips at the Leeward iſlands, dated the 30th of September, and from Vice-Adm. Gayton, commander in chief of his Majeſty's ſhips at Jamaica, dated the 4th of November laſt, it appears, that the cruiſers of the former had taken twelve veſſels belonging to his Majeſty's rebellious colonies ſince the 24th of July, and that the cruiſers of the letter had, ſince the 8th of October, taken eight veſſels belonging to the ſaid colonies, making in the whole 56 veſſels taken by the cruiſers from Jamaica."

Extract

Extracts from letters.

"*Delancy's Mills, Nov.* 24. On the 15th current, the Adjutant-General went, in the evening, with a ſummons for the rebels to ſurrender Fort Waſhington, otherwiſe that Gen. Howe muſt be obliged to ſtorm the place, and every one in it might expect to be put to the ſword. The anſwer he received was, That Col. Magaw, who commanded, and the troops in the fort, were determined to hold it out to the laſt extremity; and that they knew the humanity of the General and the Britiſh too well to expect that no quarter would be given them.—The attack of the rebels lines had been previouſly concerted, and the army ordered to be under arms at break of day.

Gen. Knyphauſen, with about 2000 Heſſians, was ordered to attack two redoubts of the enemy's, which were on a very high riſing ground, facing King's-bridge. All the road, and all round the hill, to the North river, was covered with ſuch a thick abbatis, and ſuch a number of felled trees, that it was really almoſt impoſſible for a perſon to get through them; and it ſeemed impracticable for the Heſſian General to gain the redoubts without the loſs of at leaſt half his men.

Flat-bottomed boats came round, by the North river, to King's-bridge, to take on board the light infantry, grenadiers, and guards, who were to attack a redoubt of the enemy's on a height above Haerlem river; and more boats came round by Haerlem, to take on board the 42d, who were only intended to make a demonſtration, but which afterwards proved a very ſerious affair.

Lord Percy, with one brigade of Britiſh, and another of Heſſians, was to attack on the New-York ſide of the lines. Seven o'clock was the hour appointed to begin the attack; but, for want of proper attention to the tide, it was obliged to be deferred till about half paſt ten; as there was not, till then, ſufficient water to carry the boats on Haerlem creek.

The impatience of every one during this critical delay, was viſible on every countenance; and, during my life, I never felt ſo diſagreeably; as, indeed, every ſpectator, as well as myſelf, undoubtedly did: for the Heſſians, having advanced near to the foot of the hill which they were to attack, were expoſed to a cannonade from the enemy for near two hours, although they loſt very few men by it: and the light infantry, having got into their boats, and rowed almoſt under the redoubt on Haerlem creek, were obliged, for want of water, to turn a little way back; and were expoſed ſo much to the enemy's fire, that they had ſeveral men killed in the boats by grape-ſhot. At laſt, the long wiſhed for tide flowed ſufficiently to carry the boats, and a flag was diſplayed for the ſeveral attacks to be given. Our batteries then opened with a dreadful noiſe: near thirty pieces of cannon, beſides howitzers and royals, began to play, in different places, on the enemy; and the whole country round was covered with ſmoke.

The 42d regiment was the firſt who gained their point, although they had ſeveral killed in their boats; and as their landing was entirely within the rebels lines, they facilitated Lord Percy's attack; who, indeed, had not a ſhot fired on his entering the lines, the enemy having run from them on ſeeing the 42d regiment on the heights at Col. Morris's, and made the beſt of their way to get acroſs the North river in boats; but the Highlanders purſued them, and took 170 of them priſoners before Lord Percy came up to their aſſiſtance.

The Heſſians, in the mean time, had a moſt difficult game to play; and, in getting through the thick abbatis, and gaining the ſummit of the hill, where the two redoubts were, behaved in the moſt ſpirited manner, and were in a conſtant fire, with ſmall arms, for fifty-five minutes; when they ſtormed the redoubts, and drove the enemy into their laſt reſource, Fort Waſhington.

The light infantry met with little oppoſition in their attack, and ſoon poſſeſſed themſelves of the redoubt; and, likewiſe, obliged the rebels to take ſhelter in the fort. The Heſſians loſt near 300 killed and wounded, and the 42d about eighty.

All that was intended by the different attacks was to gain the high grounds on a level with the fort, ſo as to be able to make our approaches; but as they all ſucceeded, the rebels had nothing left but to ſurrender on capitulation, and themſelves, in number 2700 men, priſoners of war: for, indeed, the fort was incapable of holding half the men, and only

only depended on the ſtrength of the lines for its own ſafety.

Gen. Knyphauſen and the Heſſians, and Col. Stirling and the 42d regiment, gained great honour, and the particular thanks of the General, for their ſpirited behaviour. They undoubtedly deſerved it: for, to crawl up a hill with their hands and feet, in the face of an enemy, was a thing few troops would, or, indeed, could do."

"*New York, Nov.* 26. On Saturday laſt we attacked Fort Waſhington, on the iſland of New York, the ſtrongeſt poſt that ever was occupied by an army. The difficulties we had to ſurmount are almoſt incredible: hills covered with wood, and almoſt perpendicular; from the fall of the leaf the footing inſecure; in ſhort, there was every thing to favour the rebels in point of ground. We attacked the ſouth and eaſt ſides of the ground; the Heſſians, in two columns, made their attack on the north. Hannibal, in his paſſage over the Alps, could not have met with ground or difficulties more formidable than what the Heſſians had to go over. They behaved with diſtinguiſhed bravery: their General ſolicited to act ſeparately with his troops, and headed the left column; notwithſtanding the impediments, they preſerved their order amazingly. Lord Percy led on the troops under his command with great ſpirit, and forced the rebels works with very little loſs. His Lordſhip's horſe was twice wounded, but fortunately he received no hurt. The rebels all ran into the fort, where they had 3000 firelocks charged: our men ſtood laughing as they paſſed, crying out, "Make room for the ſoldiers." They hung out a flag of truce, and aſked leave to ſurrender with the honours of war: they were ſent word by Gen. Knyphauſen, that if they did not ſurrender in thirty minutes, the fort ſhould be ſtormed, and every man put to death. They inſtantly complied with the terms, marched out of the fort, and grounded their arms. We made 2586 priſoners, with new cloathing for two battalions. At twelve at night, they were marched priſoners to New York.—In two nights after this, we went over to the Jerſeys, and took Fort Lee without loſs."

"*New York, Nov.* 5. It is aſtoniſhing with what judgement the rebel-poſts are fortified, and yet they will not remain in them to defend them: they retreat at the ſight of our army. The priſoners are treated with the greateſt lenity by our commanders. A brigade-major deſerted from the rebels yeſterday, who informs us the rebel-army leſſens daily by deſertion. We have an exceeding good market here: beef three pence halfpenny per pound, and every other kind of proviſion in equal plenty, and proportionally cheap. The army have it for taking, and the fleet are ſerved with it twice a-week. I ſuppoſe no army were ever better ſupplied, nor in greater ſpirits for engaging. The inhabitants are coming into New York daily, and opening ſhops."

"*New York, Nov.* 25. The rebel-priſoners, amounting to about 3000 men, taken at Fort Waſhington, were brought to town laſt Monday. The whole number of priſoners now in town is near 5000, many of them half-naked."—"To all their other enormities, the congreſs have added the barbarity of entirely deſerting the poor wretches, whom they had beguiled into their ſervice, when taken priſoners by the King's troops. They have ſent them neither money, ſubſiſtence, nor cloathing; nor have they paid the leaſt attention to the accumulating diſtreſſes of either them or their families. It is therefore needleſs to expreſs the filthineſs of their appearance and ſituation: and if his Majeſty's officers had not ſhewn more humanity to theſe deluded people, than their maſters the congreſs, their ſituation muſt have been doubly deplorable. Conſidering their great numbers, and their neceſſary confinement, every poſſible attention has been given to alleviate their diſtreſs, ariſing from the complicated evils of guilt, ſickneſs, and poverty."

An officer of the 64th regiment, in York iſland, writes, "The rebel-army are in ſo wretched a condition as to cloathing and accoutrements, that I believe no nation ever ſaw ſuch a ſet of tatter-de-mallions: there are few coats among them but what are out at elbows, and in a whole regiment there is ſcarce a pair of breeches; judge then how they muſt be pinched by a winter-campaign. We, who are warmly cloathed, and well equipped, already feel it ſeverely; for it is even now much colder than I ever felt it in England. As to proviſions, they have been pretty well ſupplied; more care has been taken of their bellies than their backs. But we have lately

made

made a prize that muſt diſtreſs them exceedingly; no leſs than a church-full of ſalt: ſo that the poor Yankies, literally, won't have ſalt to their porridge."

We conclude theſe affairs for this volume, with the provincial accounts of ſome proceedings formerly related.

"*New York, Sept.* 17. Our army abandoned New York to the enemy laſt Sunday, without any loſs. Some of our troops and militia behaved very badly. This encouraged the enemy to advance yeſterday to attack our lines, near the nine mile ſtone from New York. Our advanced guard oppoſed them: they were reinforced; ſo were our people, till pretty numerous, and a ſevere ſkirmiſh enſued, which laſted a full hour. Our people beat them back three times, and finally they left us the ground, with numbers of dead, wounded, and priſoners, about four hundred. We loſt about ſixty; indeed we gave them a good beating. We have them now away from their ſhips, and I believe we ſhall drub them yet." [542.]

"*White Plains, Nov.* 6. The enemy are withdrawing from us. They move off very ſoftly—make no noiſe. Some deſerters have ſaid, they are going into winter-quarters at New York. Thus endeth the ſecond chapter of Britiſh campaigns. No doubt Lord and General Howe's letters to miniſtry will boaſt of amazing acquiſitions:—Staten iſland, Long iſland, the city of New York, Powles-Hook, Haerlem, Mamaroneck, New Rochelle, and White Plains, and all the adjoining coaſts;—hireling ſcribblers will proclaim their noble deeds, and the *mobile vulgus* will ſhout loud applauſe.—But at Staten iſland there was no oppoſition, and the iſland not worth having; the enemy got but a part of Long iſland, and that the ſmalleſt part too; all their other acquiſitions are of no importance to them, and are now evacuating moſt of them. The city of New York itſelf was of no conſequence to us in a military point of view. It is worthy of obſervation too, that the enemy have by no means effected the purpoſe upon which they came to America;—we are now as far from being ſubjugated as ever we were:—in ſhort, Howe has been conſtantly out-generalled by the brave, the prudent, the wiſe Waſhington." [642.].

"On the 11th of October at eight o'clock in the morning, the enemy's fleet on Lake Champlain, conſiſting of one ſhip, mounting 16 guns, one ſnow, mounting the ſame number, one ſchooner of 14 guns, two of 12, two ſloops, a bomb-ketch, and a large veſſel (her force unknown), with fifteen or twenty flat-bottomed boats, or goadolas, carrying one 12 or 18 pounder in their bows, appeared off Cumberland Head. Gen. Arnold, and his forces, immediately prepared to receive them. At 11 o'clock the attack began; at half paſt 12 the engagement became general, and very warm; ſome of the enemy's ſhips, and all their gondolas, beat up, and rowed within muſket-ſhot of our fleet: They continued a very hot fire, with round and grape, till 5 o'clock; when they thought fit to retire 6 or 700 yards diſtance, and continued there till it was dark. Gen. Arnold and his troops conducted themſelves, during this action, with great firmneſs and intrepidity, and made a better reſiſtance than could have been expected againſt a force ſo greatly ſuperior: the whole of our killed and wounded amounted to about 60. The Philadelphia gondola and a ſchooner were loſt in the engagement, but all the men were ſaved. The enemy landed a number of Indians on Schuyler's iſland, and on each ſhore, who kept up an inceſſant fire, but did little damage. The enemy had, to appearance, upwards of 1000 men in batteaux prepared for boarding.

The enemy's force being ſo greatly ſuperior, it was determined in council to remove to Crown-point, in order to refit, and collect our force. At 2 o'clock, p. m. the 12th, our fleet weighed anchor, with a freſh breeze to the ſouthward. The enemy's fleet, at the ſame time, got under weigh. Our gondolas made very little way a-head. In the evening the wind moderated, and we made ſuch progreſs, that at 6 o'clock the next morning we were within 28 miles of Crown-point. The enemy's fleet was very little above Schuyler's iſland: The wind breezed up to the ſouthward, ſo that we gained very little by beating or rowing: At the ſame time the enemy took a freſh breeze from the N. E. and by the time we reached Split-rock, were alongſide of us. The Waſhington and Congreſs were in the rear, and the reſt of our fleet were a-head, except two gondolas ſunk at Schuyler's iſland. The Waſhington galley was in ſuch a ſhattered condition, and had ſo many men killed and wounded, that ſhe ſtruck to the enemy after receiving

ceiving a few broadſides. The Congreſs was then attacked by a ſhip mounting 12 eighteen pounders, a ſchooner of 14 ſixes, and one of 12 ſixes, two under her ſtern, and one on her broadſide within muſket-ſhot. The enemy kept up an inceſſant fire about five glaſſes, with round and grape ſhot, which was returned as briſkly. The ſails, rigging, and hull, of the Congreſs, were ſhattered and torn to pieces; when, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands, Gen. Arnold, who was on board, ran her aſhore in a ſmall creek, ten miles from Crown-point; where, after taking out her ſmall arms, ſhe was ſet on fire, with four other gondolas; with whoſe crews the General reached Crown-point that evening, luckily eſcaping the ſavages, who way-laid the road in two hours after he had paſſed it. Of our whole fleet we have ſaved two gallies, two ſchooners, one gondola, and one ſloop. Gen. Arnold behaved with ſuch intrepidity, that he covered the retreat of the few veſſels we ſaved, at the expence of one third of his crew. Our commanders and men behaved moſt gallantly: ſome veſſels having loſt all their officers, fought notwithſtanding, and refuſed to yield but with their lives. The enemy acknowledge our bravery, and confeſs their loſs of men equal to ours.

Our troops are now buſily employed in completing the lines, redoubts, &c. at Crown-point, expecting the enemy to attack them with the fleet and army: but as the ſeaſon is now far advanced, and our men are daily growing in health, they have the moſt flattering expectations of maintaining their poſt againſt any force the enemy can bring.

P. S. Two of the enemy's gondolas were ſunk the firſt day by our fleet, and one blown up, with 60 men." [591.]. *Penſylv. Ledg. Oct. 25.*

England.

We have to add to our liſt of addreſſes, in approbation of coercive meaſures againſt the coloniſts [217.], one, inſerted in the Gazette of May 4. from the provincial ſynod of Dumfries, dated April 17. 1776, and ſigned, *Bryce Johnſton, Mod.*

After the 26th of February [106.] the following ſums were ſubſcribed for the relief of the diſtreſſed clergy of the church of England in North America, viz. by March 11. 474l. 10s.; March 18. 724l. 18s. 6d.; March 25. 379l. 14s. and by April 1. 555l. 17s.; and April 8. 238l. 9s. in all 4044l. 3s. 6d.—of which the univerſities of Oxford and Cambridge ſubſcribed 100l. each, the Dutcheſs of Kingſton 50l. and the Biſhop of Glouceſter 20l.

Scotland.

On the 29th of April, a branch of the bank of Scotland, eſtabliſhed at Stirling, commenced buſineſs. So now that bank has ſix branches,—at Dumfries, Kelſo, Inverneſs, Kilmarnock, Air, and Stirling; at each of which places, credits are given on caſh-accounts, bills of exchange are purchaſed, and bills payable at thoſe places, and at Edinburgh, are diſcounted. Little ſpecie is needed at the branches; for the company's notes are payable only at Edinburgh. [xxxvii. 691.]

Political diſputes ran high in Edinburgh before the Michaelmas elections. On this ſubject Mr John Walker, then eldeſt bailie, publiſhed a letter, Sept. 18. addreſſed, *To the Rt Hon. James Stodart, Eſq; Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh;* which was followed by an anſwer from his Lordſhip, Sept. 28.; and a reply from Bailie Walker, Oct. 2. Beſides theſe, which were written with decency, there was an inundation of anonymous papers, very liberally diſtributed on the ſtreets, and the printers and publiſhers induſtriouſly concealed; and many letters and ſquibs, both in verſe and proſe, in the news-papers; in moſt of which little decorum was obſerved. From theſe publications it appears, that early in the winter 1775-6, Prov. Stodart, in a confidential converſation with Mr Laurie, his predeceſſor in the chair, propoſed Mr Kincaid as his ſucceſſor; that, this notwithſtanding, Mr Laurie, without conſulting Mr Stodart, wrote to Sir Laurence Dundas, in favour of Provoſt Dalrymple; that in December Sir Laurence ſhewed Mr Stodart Mr Laurie's letter at London, which ſurpriſed him greatly, becauſe of the wide difference he formerly knew to be in the ſentiments of Meſſ. Laurie and Dalrymple;—that Mr Walker ſays, his original concert with Mr Stodart was, 1. That the offices of magiſtracy ſhould be filled with men of reſpectable characters; 2. That theſe men ſhould be friendly to the intereſt of Sir Laurence Dundas; 3. That Mr Kincaid ſhould be Provoſt, and Mr Elder Dean of Guild, who were both conſidered as

friends

friends to Sir Laurence; — that Mr Stodart ſays, that the firſt converſations he had with Mr Walker were founded upon a more extenſive and liberal principle than what reſpected the magiſtracy alone, namely, That the trades ſhould be freed from the odious reſtriction the council has upon their elections by ſhortening their leets, and ſome other alterations; — that, according to Mr Walker, this matter was not ſpoke of till ſome weeks after; that about twelve years ago, Mr Walker had exerted himſelf to bring ſuch a meaſure about, but was ſtopped by a ſuſpenſion obtained by the then Lord Provoſt, Mr Drummond [xxv. 357, 78.]; and that had Mr Stodart and his friends, at the firſt converſations above mentioned, propoſed ſuch a meaſure, Mr Walker would moſt heartily have concurred with them, but no ſuch meaſure was then propoſed, and the only agreement made by Mr Walker, reſpected the three articles above ſpecified. It appears, that at theſe converſations all parties expreſſed themſelves as friendly to Sir Laurence's intereſt; but that the Duke of Buccleugh and the Lord Advocate, Mr Dundas, offered their intereſt in ſupport of Mr Stodart's meaſures; and that their intereſt and that of Sir Laurence were in oppoſition the one to the other.

At the election, Sir Laurence's friends prevailed. Both ſides agreed in chuſing Mr Kincaid Lord Provoſt; and in the evening of the election-day, ſome of his Lordſhip's friends having expreſſed their joy by bonfires and illuminations, the populace ran into riot, and did great damage, by breaking windows, and other miſchief. A few perſons were committed next day on ſuſpicion, and a reward of ten guineas was offered by the magiſtrates for diſcovering the actors in, or inſtigators of the riot.

Moſt, if not all, of the incorporations gave thanks publicly to Mr Stodart for his conduct.

In anſwer to what Meſſ. Stodart and Walker ſeem to agree in, that the city-member had done little in the way of public benefaction, *A Citizen* ſays, that beſides many large private charities in the city, he has given to the merchants and trades hoſpitals 500 l. each, and to the poor houſe, infirmary, and other public charities in the city about 1000 l. more.

Sum of the quantity and value of Linen ſtamped for ſale in Scotland, [56.]

From Nov. 1. 1775, *to Nov.* 1. 1776.

Quantity 13,571,948 1 half yards.
Value L. 638,873 : 9 : 8.
Medium Price 11, 7 24ths d.
More this year than the preceeding:
Quantity 1,427,265 1 4th yards.
Value L. 77,345 : 19 : 5 : 1 4th.

The number of patients in the royal infirmary, Edinburgh, in 1776. [56.]

In the hoſpital, Jan. 1. 1776	183	1851
Admitted that year	1668	
Particulars of the above ſum.		
Ordinary patients	1160	1851
Supernumeraries	72	
Servants	186	
Soldiers	433	
Of whom,		
Cured in the year 1776	1375	1716
Relieved, though not fully cured	146	
Diſmiſſed by deſire	118	
Diſmiſſed for irregularities	9	
Diſmiſſed as incurable	11	
Died	57	
In the hoſpital, Jan. 1. 1777.		135
Ordinary patients	77	
Supernumeraries	0	
Servants	18	
Soldiers	40	

The number of patients in the Aberdeen infirmary in 1776. [56.]

Patients in the hoſpital Jan. 1. 1776.	82	1120
Admitted from Jan. 1. 1776, to Jan. 1. 1777	1038	
Of whom,		
Perfectly cured	713	1044
Incurable, after a long trial	25	
Recovered, ſo as to follow their uſual buſineſs	180	
Improper, diſmiſſed at their own deſire, and deſerted	83	
Died	43	
Remaining in the hoſpital Jan. 1. 1777.		76

Beſides the above number received into the hoſpital, 2457 have had the benefit of advice and medicines as out-patients.

A committee of commiſſioners of ſupply, to whom ſeveral plans for erecting an infirmary at Dumfries had been referred, met at that borough Oct. 29. and were of opinion, that the plan of an infirmary at Saliſbury, communicated by the Duke of Queenſberry, was a proper model, and ought to be adopted. A houſe was accordingly hired, to be occupied as an infirmary, till a proper building be erected.

The LONDON General Bill of Chriſtenings and Burials, from December 12. 1775, to December 10. 1776; with the diſeaſes and caſualties, &c. [xxxvii. 735.]

Chriſtened			Buried			Decreaſed in the burials this year 1466
	Males 8859			Males 9499		
	Females 8421	17280		Females 9549	19048	

Between

Age.	No.	Age.	No.	Age.	No.	Age.	No.	Age.	No.
Under 2	6857	20 and 30	1350	60 and 70	1325	100	1	105	1
2 and 5	1670	30 and 40	1615	70 and 80	960	101	1	106	1
5 and 10	592	40 and 50	1893	80 and 90	367	102	2		
10 and 20	688	50 and 60	1673	90 and 100	50	104	2		

Diſeaſes.						*Caſualties.*	
Abort. and Stillb.	513	Evil	33	Meaſles	153	Bite of a mad dog	1
Aged	1212	Fever, ditto malignant, ſcarlet, ſpotted, and purples	1893	Miſcarriage	1	Broken limbs	2
Ague	6	Fiſtula	6	Mortification	194	Bruiſed	2
Apoplexy and Sud.	247	Flux	10	Palſy	73	Burnt	13
Aſthma and Tiſſick	301	French Pox	67	Pleuriſy	18	Drowned	112
Bedridden	5	Gout	71	Quinſy	6	Exceſſive Drinking	5
Bleeding	11	Gravel, Stone, and Strangury	44	Raſh	2	Executed	16
Bloody Flux	1	Grief	8	Rheumatiſm	6	Found Dead	3
Burſten and Rupture	10	Headach	1	Rickets	1	Killed by Falls, and ſeveral other Accidents	60
Cancer	81	Headmouldſh. Horſhoehead, and Water in the Head	26	Scald-head	0	Killed themſelves	32
Canker	2	Jaundice	120	Scurvy	3	Murdered	6
Childbed	193	Impoſthume	2	Small Pox	1728	Overlaid	8
Cholic, Gripes, Twiſting of the Guts	45	Inflammation	89	Sore Throat	8	Poiſoned	3
Cold	6	Itch	3	Sores and Ulcers	15	Scalded	5
Conſumption	4508	Leproſy	1	St Anthony's Fire	1	Smothered	1
Convulſions	5027	Lethargy	3	Stoppage in Stom.	13	Starved	13
Cough, and Hooping-Cough	181	Livergrown	3	Surfeit	1	Suffocated	5
Diabetes	1	Lunatic	40	Swelling	6		
Dropſy	933			Teeth	771		
				Thruſh	57		
				Tympany	0		
				Vomit. and Looſneſs	4		
				Worms	7		

General Bill of Mortality for 1776, in EDINBURGH, and WEST-KIRK pariſh.

	Buried in the city.			*In the Weſt-kirk-yard.*			
	Males.	Femal.	In all.	Males.	Femal.	In all.	Total.
January	38	40	78	38	34	72	150
February	37	46	83	19	27	46	129
March	35	39	74	16	21	37	111
April	20	36	56	11	15	26	82
May	25	19	44	18	18	36	80
June	23	31	54	13	12	25	79
July	26	18	44	11	15	26	70
Auguſt	30	20	50	9	12	21	71
September	13	23	36	13	17	30	66
October	13	28	41	13	20	33	74
November	20	40	60	19	13	32	92
December	36	44	80	13	14	27	107
Total	316	384	700	193	218	411	1111

Age.		Nº
Under 2 years		380
Between	2 & 5	118
	5 & 10	70
	10 & 20	51
	20 & 30	56
	30 & 40	73
	40 & 50	70
	50 & 60	73
	60 & 70	95
	70 & 80	74
	80 & 90	39
	90 & 100	11
	100 & 105	1

Decreaſed 3.

Diſeaſes, &c.

Aged	133	Cramp	2	Gravel	3	Palſy	2
Aſthma	19	Dropſy	5	Killed by the falling in of a quarry	1	Small pox	199
Bowelhive	31	Executed	3	Killed by a fall	1	Sore Throat	1
Childbed	11	Fever	192	King's evil	1	Stillborn	40
Chincough	51	Fiſtula	1	Meaſles	30	Suddenly	10
Conſumption	291	Flux	4			Swelling in the kidneys	1
		Gout	1			Swelling	2
						Teething	65
						Vomiting	1
						Water in head	3
						Weakneſs	7

The burials in the Canongate and Calton burial-places are not included.

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